Table of Contents

1. Chapter 1
2. Chapter 2
3. Chapter 3
4. Chapter 4
5. Chapter 5
6. Chapter 6
7. Chapter 7
8. Chapter 8
9. Chapter 9
10. Chapter 10
11. Chapter 11
12. Chapter 12
13. Chapter 13
14. Chapter 14
15. Chapter 15
16. Chapter 16
17. Chapter 17
18. Chapter 18
19. Chapter 19
20. Chapter 20
21. Chapter 21
22. Chapter 22
23. Chapter 23
24. Chapter 24
25. Chapter 25
26. Chapter 26
27. Chapter 27
28. Chapter 28
29. Chapter 29
30. Chapter 30
31. Chapter 31
32. Chapter 32
33. Chapter 33
34. Chapter 34

35. Chapter 35
36. Chapter 36
37. Chapter 37
38. Chapter 38

Chapter 1

"Reich Frühstück ist fertig! (Reich breakfast is ready!)", I was woken up. I didn't wanted to get up, I wanted to sleep, but here in the countryside it was different from the palace, but there it was, if I am to be honest, not so nice. I stayed in bed because I didn't feel like getting up. "Wenn du nicht aufstehst, bekommst du kein Frühstück! (If you don't get up, you won't get breakfast!)", came again from downstairs. I gave in and wiped the sleep from my eyes. Slowly I got up and made my way downstairs after pulling on my jacket and pulling on a pair of underpants and simple trousers. The stairs creaked with every step I took.

I stretched one last time before going into the dining room. Then I greet with: "Guten Morgen allerseits! (Good morning everyone!)" I was also greeted by the others at the table before I sat on a free chair. Luckily I got to know this nice family who let me live with them. These people were really nice and although I have some difficulties with the son of the family who was about the same age as me, the time here with the family was really nice. Nobody saw who I really was. Everyone thought I was the king's selfish son, but I wasn't.

I cared a lot for the people here and I do my best to make sure they are okay. Rosalinde, the wife of the family, was putting the food on the table. There was pretzel soup again. I loved her pretzel soup, this soup was the best in the world. I took half a bowl of soup because I wanted the others to get more because they deserved it more than I did. However, Rosi said: "Reich bitte nimm einen ganzen Teller voll Suppe, du bist noch Jugendlich und brauchst genau deswegen mehr Essen. (Reich, please take a whole plate full of soup, you are still a teenager and that's why you need more food.)" Rosi is the nickname I gave her because Rosalinde was a little too long for me. She always worried so much about me. I listened to her and took more soup.

I wish everyone at the table: "An Guadn!" The others wished me the

same. 'An Guadn' is Bavarian and means 'bon appetite'. I loved to speak Bavarian. There was also a Statehuman in the family and of course it was Bavaria, he was the man in the family. For me, Bavaria was more of a father figure than my biological father. He was always so nice and has often helped us with the work in the fields and with the animals, even though he was supposed to work in the city, since he was in contact with my father and worked for him, that's how I got to know him. "Hey! Prinz! Dramst du scho wieder? (Are you dreaming again?)", joked Lukas, the son of Bavaria and Rosi.

Fortunately, they also had a daughter who was a lot nicer than him. Magdalena, the daughter, stayed with a couple of friends. I still found it strange that a Statehuman would marry a human and have human children, but my biological father also had a human as his wife, so it wasn't quite as strange. But my brother was also a Countryhuman like me, his name was Weimar. Weimar was one year younger than me. Since I was the firstborn, I was called Reich, like my father and grandfather. My whole name is Greater German Reich, but most people call me Reich the Third, Third Reich or just Reich.

Why do I have so many names? "Prinz dram net zfui! (Prince don't dream too much!)", Lukas annoyed me again. Bavaria stepped in: "Lukas her af! (Lukas stop!)" Then Lukas concentrated on his food again and left me alone. I finally started eating too and it was even better than I imagined. After dinner, I went upstairs for a moment and took a sip of the potion that made me look human before I went downstairs and it was about who had what tasks for today. "Ich werde zuerst Wasser holen gehen und danach werde ich bei den Tieren ausmisten. (I will get water and then muck out the stables for the animals.)", I sayed them.

Of course they agreed, whereupon I got two wooden buckets to get water from the stream in the forest, since the water well in the city was causing problems again and I would rather go into the forest than into the village. I walked comfortably through the forest to the stream. I saw some fisch. I watched them until I heard footsteps from someone. I looked at the source of the noise. There was a boy with a strange hat and a long brown coat. "Who are you?" He asked

me. The boy was about a head taller than me and why does he speak english? "I'm Andreas and who are you?", I asked. Andreas was the name I used to avoid getting attention.

The boy replied: "My name is Nick. What are you doing here Andreas?" "I'll get some water.", I answered him. "I'm looking for flowers.", he replied on his own. I giggled a little, knowing exactly where to find lots of flowers. But why did he need flowers? "What's so funny?", he asked irritably, clenching his fists. "Sorry, but you will definitely not find the flowers you are looking for here and I can show you a place where you can find more. Maybe there are the flowers you are looking for.", I said when I stopped giggling and he was only ten feet away from me. "Really?", Nick asked.

"Yes! Come with me!", I said and went ahead. I looked behind me and saw that he was following me. We arrived shortly afterwards. "Here are the flowers!", I shouted and pointing in the direction. Then he went in the direction I was pointing. Meanwhile I went to the stream that led away from a little pond. I looked closely at the water before dipping the two buckets into the water. I also sat down to enjoy the nature. I heard footsteps coming towards me again. Then I turned in that direction and saw Nick walking towards me. He had a smile on his face and sat down next to me.

Nick thanked me: "Thank you, Andreas! You really helped me. Can I pay you back somehow?" "You don't have to pay me back anything. It's a pleasure that I could help you.", I said. Nick said: "Still, I want to return the favor. I misjudged you too. I thought you were a German who would make fun of me for looking for flowers." Was he one of the Russians? I knew I lived on the border with the other country, but I had never seen one before, axcept for the two Countryhumans, Soviet Union and Russian Empire. My biological father always said that Russians were unfriendly, had cold personalities and are crazy, but Sowjet and Nick are more like the opposite of that.

I simply said to him: "I'm German, but I don't make fun of you just because you're looking for flowers." I turn my head to face him for a moment. From the way he looked, I knew he had something against me for what I'd just said. I'd rather leave, the whole situation just became too uncomfortable for me. "I-I'll go then.", I said and slowly

stood up before he lightly grabbed my arm. I look at him again and sit down again. Nick apologized: "Sorry that I might have come across as hate Germans, but I've never met a German.

I've just always heard that you guys were unkind, had a cold personality and are crazy, but you're the opposite of that." "I can be stubborn now and then. I've also heard a lot of negative things about Russians, but it's the same as what you said and you don't seem like that to me.", I agreed. We both smiled at each other and I started giggling a bit, finding it funny that I had believed such rubbish. Nick joined in and put his hand on my shoulder in a friendly manner. "You are really nice!", he said. "You too!", I agreed. "Let's meet again later meet here?", Nick asked me. I replied: "Sure! I'll see you here in about four hours." "I promise!", said Nick.

Chapter 2

Unfortunately I had to go back because of the water and the mucking out, but luckily I will maybe get to know him a little better later. I would like to hear from him about the land of the Russian Empire. I strolled back to the yard and brought one of the two buckets into the kitchen before taking the other to the animals. I filled the animals water half way because I didn't have enough water with me. So I went back to the beautiful forest for more water. The birds chirped as I made my way to the pond. The air here was fresh and not full of dust as in my room.

I didn't really mind dust, although I had to sneeze from it all the time. My biological father hated dust and always wanted everything to be sparkling clean. My little brother was something like that, but luckily not that bad. This forest was a lot better than the royal garden. I even saw a squirrel hop around. In the distance I could even hear a woodpecker beating the trunk of a tree. Presumably he was after beetles under the bark. As I passed some flowers I saw two cabbage whites, white butterflies with a few black spots on their wings.

I watched them flutter toward each other from two sides. Both flew to the side, one closely followed by the other. At some point they were so close that I couldn't tell which one was which. Did the two of them like each other or were they fighting? I hope they like each other because there was too much hatred and distrust in this world anyway. The butterflies disappeared into the depths of the forest. After a short time I saw a dragonfly that flew just past my face so that I could feel the wind of its wings beat on my forehead. "Libelle, du spinnst doch wohl! (Dragonfly, you're crazy!)" I laughed. She should really watch where she was going. I followed the dragonfly to the stream, but it got stuck between two reeds and I knew immediately that there was a spider web there.

Should I help the dragonfly? It could probably free itself, but I wasn't quite sure. I already saw the spider, it was a garden spider. I

have to decide quickly! Oh forget it! I'll think about it later. I put the wooden bucket on the grass and immediately grabbed another reed, tore it out and got the dragonfly out of the dangerous situation. "Tut mir leid Spinne, aber suche dir jemand anderes, den du fressen kannst! (Sorry spider, but find someone else to eat!)", I told the spider before I took care of the wriggling dragonfly. I divided the reeds I had in two and tried to get the spider web off her. After a few minutes it refused to let me help it and flew away.

I looked after it happily. "Well done Andreas!", I heard someone behind me. I was frightened and turned around. Nick stood there and apologized: "I'm really sorry. I didn't mean to scare you." I started smiling at him and said: "All right! You don't have to apologize!" Nick came closer to me and said enthusiastically: "The dragonfly had a really lucky day! I thought it was really nice of you how you saved it." Unfortunately, I didn't know what to say to him. I nervously scratched my neck with my hand and said: "Thank you!" Then I got up and remembered: "Didn't we want to talk later?"

"Yes, but I need more flowers," answered Nick. "I also need more water for the animals.", I informed him. Then he said: "You really have a heart for animals." Nick seems really nice and likes animals. He was so close in front of me that for the first time I could really look into his golden eyes. I didn't mean to seem weird, but I liked his eyes. Normal people did not have such a golden tone. Fortunately, my eyes were blue and the potion couldn't change the color of the eyes. Was he a Countryhuman like me? No, definitely not, surely he just had a particularly beautiful eye color that reminds me too much of Soviet.

There was another difference between Countryhumans eyes and human eyes, Countryhumans eyes glittered slightly, but the potion prevented that too. Still, I couldn't stop looking at his special eyes. However, when I noticed how long I stared at this, I immediately looked away, uncomfortable. When I looked at him briefly, he also looked a little to the side. "Maybe we will go down the stream first, do our tasks and then meet, as we have agreed.", I suggested, whereupon he nodded a little shyly. Was there something bad about staring into his golden eyes for so long? I took my bucket and walked with him down the stream next to me.

"What is your favorite color?", I asked him, wanting to start a conversation. "Red and you?", he asked back. I replied: "Blue is my favorite color. What is your favorite animal?" Nick replied: "Brown Bear and you?" "I like gray wolves, but I've never seen a wolf before.", I answered. "I've never seen wolves either, but I've seen a black bear before and fought it a little against it.", he said. "You fought a bear?", I ask amazed. Who the hell would ever fight with a bear? Nick had to be really strong and brave. He said: "Oh yeah and it was really fun until..."

He didn't finish the sentence and looked away from me. What happened to the bear? Did Nick hurt him badly? Nick continued out of nowhere: "... my father killed him." Poor bear I hoped he wouldn't have to suffer long. Nick's father wasn't nice, because who would hurt any living being? My father probably, but I do not like to think about him. I had to cheer Nick up somehow because I didn't want to see him so sad. "I'm sorry, Nick.", I said, stroking his back. Then he saw at me and I started to smile a little because I wanted him not to have to think negatively about such a thing. He also started to smile slightly.

I took the chance to get away from the topic and asked: "What do you like to do in your free time?" Nick replied: "I carve figures out of wood, go swimming, learn to play instruments, watch animals or make up stories. What are you doing?" "I read and write stories, also watch animals, draw pictures and I sometimes sing," I replied. Then we arrived at the point. I dipped the wooden bucket into the stream again and then went back to the farm, but Nick caught up with me with some flowers in his hand.

"I have something for you for saving the dragonfly.", he said, came closer to me and carefully put something in my hair. Then he walked away a little and smiled at me before he said: "That looks really good on you!" From the reflection of the water in my bucket, I saw that it was a blue flower. It was really nice and looked really good on me, as Nick had said. "Thank you very much!", I thanked him happily. Nick replied: "You're welcome! See you later!" "Yes! See you then!", I called after him before he disappeared behind the trees. Then I continued on my way back to the farm.

Chapter 3

I filled the water I had brought with me in the water of the animals before I took the wooden bucket back to where I had taken it. Then I got the pitchfork and cleaned the stables. Then I put new straw on the ground. While I was spreading the straw on the ground, I saw Lukas, who was making himself comfortable on one of the fences. He joked: "Bis du zum Blumenjungen geworden? (How did you become a flower boy?)" "Ha-ha-ha, sehr witzig. (Ha-ha-ha, very funny.)", I said annoyed, then I told him in a better mood, "Ich habe diese Blume von jemanden bekommen, denn ich kennen gelernt habe! (I got this flower from someone I met!)" "Seit wann hast du den Freunde? (Since when do you have friends?)", he joked. However, I no longer got involved with him and continued to finish my work.

Every time he tried to annoy me in some way, I ignored him until he was gone. I put the pitchfork in the corner where more tools were. Then I went to Rosi's house, who was just putting the freshly washed clothes in the dresser. "Rosi, ich habe heute jemanden neuen kennen gelernt. Darf ich zu ihm? (Rosi, I met someone new today. May I see him?)", I asked her. She seemed happy about it and said happily: "Natürlich! Geh ruhig zu ihm. (Of course! Go to him.)" "Danke! (Thanks!)", I thanked her before I stormed out of the room. I ran down the stairs and almost fell, but luckily I was still able to catch myself. Then I ran outside and into the forest.

It didn't take long until I got to the pond and saw that Nick wasn't there yet. I sat on the ground. Then I remembered saying that we wouldn't meet for three hours. "Ich Dummkopf bekomme nichts auf die Reihe! (I idiot always do everything wrong!)", I grumbled to myself. "Andreas, you are not a idiot! You just have a different sense of time.", Nick said, who was just walking towards me. How did he just understand me? Only now did I realize how big he was, but he still couldn't scare me. I knew he was a nice guy so I didn't have to be afraid of him. He sat down next to me. Nick said: "We can spend time together now, too. I have plenty of time."

"I also have enough time.", I informed him. Then I looked at him and saw that he had a basket with him. "Why did you need the flowers?" I asked him first. "I work in a bakery because I have to pay for my accommodation. In case you ask, I ran away because I don't like the life my father planned for me. I use the flowers as ingredients for some of the snacks that are served there.", said Nick. He ran away just like me. We're more similar than I thought. I can probably tell him that I didn't want to live the life my father planned either.

I told him: "I also fled from my planned life. My father and brother got on my nerves so much that I just had to leave. Now I live with a Statehuman and his family." "Really? It's the same for me except that I don't have a brother.", Nick laughed. "Do you mind that I don't want to talk about my real family?", I asked him. Then he said: "Of course I don't mind, especially since I don't want to talk about him either." When it comes to our families, it was probably very much the same with us. Maybe I can even tell him who and what I am, but later.

"Do you have any pets?", I asked Nick. "The bear I told you about was a pet. Afterwards I never had a pet again.", he answered, "What about you?" "I've never had a pet. I would like a dog.", I said. "How many friends do you have?" Nick asked me. To which I had to answer: "Zero, except when we are friends?" I wasn't exactly sure we were really friends and I didn't know if Soviet and I were friends either, since he never told me. Nick said: "Of course we are friends!" It made me really happy to hear that I have a friend for the first time in 17 years. What do friends usually do? I don't really know friendship.

My father always said: Reich my son, you cannot trust anyone. You are only safe here in the palace! Safe from what? I never needed security because all I want is freedom. Security not only takes away your freedom, but also the joy of life. If I hadn't made it out of there, I would have hanged myself, so that maybe in my next life I could be free as a bird. "Earth-to-Andreas?", came from Nick. I had drifted too far into my thoughts again. "Sorry! That happens to me again and again.", I apologized to him. "It's okay!", he said, "You also mumbled something about 'Reich'."

He shouldn't find out who I am! "Reich is the name of the king and the prince. The king is called Second Reich and his son is called Third Reich. I was just thinking that Countryhumans cannot have friends.", I told him. Why did I come up with something like that? He will definitely not believe me! That was the worst lie I've ever told anyone. "I thought the king was called Reich the Second and his son was called Reich the Third.", Nick said. I lied: "Their names are often abbreviated with Second Reich and Third Reich." My father and I were always called the long version, except in the family.

I wondered what Soviet's whole title was. He was one of the only princes I was ever allowed to talk to, for a while, anyway. He always made me feel so strange that I couldn't quite describe it. Unfortunately, I'm not sure if we were friends because I never heard from him that we were friends and I had no idea about friendship. When I thought about him like that, my body started tingling again. Somehow I miss Soviet, he was always such a friendly and nice guy. He was always careful and really nice, but could also be very clear and direct. He was always so fascinating and I often wanted to hug him.

"If you could meet a Countryhuman, who would you meet?", Nick asked me. I didn't have to think twice to give him an answer: "I would like to meet the son of Russian Empire, and you?" "I would like to meet Reich the Third. I don't know why, but I feel so drawn to him. I firmly believe that he has a good heart and is a really nice guy.", Nick replied. He likes who i am. It's nice to hear from him. Maybe I should show him who I really am, but I'm not sure. I am not ready to show him that I am Third Reich.

"Would Reich the Second allow his son to love a man?", Nick asked me. My father would definitely not allow it. "I'm sure he wouldn't like that.", I told him, in a slightly disappointed voice. Why did he ask that? Nick said: "The Russian Empire would definitely not allow that either." Had I just heard some sadness in his voice? Did Nick have anything to do with the royal family?

Chapter 4

Nick turned to his basket, picked it up and handed it to me. "In there, there's a present for you.", he told me. I looked inside and saw a piece of bread and a bar of milk chocolate. Where did he get the chocolate bar from? Chocolate is rarely to get in stores. I loved chocolate! I liked white chocolate and milk chocolate while I didn't like dark chocolate at all. I have to admit, I don't like bread either. Did pretzels count as bread? At least not for me, because I didn't like any kind of bread, but I loved pretzels, especially with butter or with butter and sour chips.

I know I have strange taste, but I am who I am. Should I tell Nick that I don't like bread? No, I would definitely hurt his feelings and I definitely didn't want that. "Thank you so much, Nick!", I shouted, hugging him with joy and thankfulness. Was it right for me to hug him, do you do that in a friendship? Nick put an arm around me and pulled me closer to him. So had I done the right thing after all? It felt nice. Nick said: "You're welcome Andy!" He called me 'Andy' now? Is giving nicknames a friendship thing too?

In any case, I didn't mind. After a short time he let go of me and smiled at me with a warm smile. He was a really nice guy. What should i ask him? I got it! I asked Nick: "What's your funniest experience?" Nick seemed to think about it before answering: "When I played a prank on my dad. I put marbles on the floor and spread honey on the floor. He was so angry with me for slipping and got stuck in honey." Nick laughed out loud as I giggled. "You really should have seen his stupid face!", he laughed.

Nick was guaranteed to have gotten into a lot of trouble for it. When Nick had calmed down again he asked: "What was your best experience?" What should I answer him? What was my best experience? Maybe when I got to know Soviet? I'm not exactly sure, but I think when I met Soviet it was the best thing that happened to me, but not my best experience. Then it occurred to me and I said: "There was someone, I met three years ago. I snuck out of the house

with him and saw the sun go down on a tree with him." "I thought you had no friends.", said Nick.

I told him: "I don't know if he and I were friends because he never told me." "What was his name?", asked Nick. I lied: "Unfortunately I don't know anymore." I had turned my head away from him a little. "It's okay!", he said and put a hand on my shoulder. He added: "If you asked me what was my best experience, I would say that how we met." Why did he sound like Soviet? On the day we said goodbye, Soviet had said that the most beautiful day in his life was the one he had met me. Why did he remind me so of Soviet? Was every Russian teenager like him?

Was he perhaps even Soviet? But what was he doing here then? He could be anywhere, then why should he be here? Nick was definitely not a Soviet! Reich stop thinking that they are the same person. I need a new question! "How old are you?", Nick asked me. I answered him: "17" "I'm 17 and a half.", he said. So big and only 17 years old? Really interesting! Soviet, was also six months older than me. Why do I compare him to Soviet? Nick is not Soviet! "Are you or have you ever been in love with someone?" Nick asked me. How do you even know that you were in love with someone? I asked: "How does it feel to be in love?"

"You have to think about the person every day and you want to spend time with the person all the time. When you meet the person, your stomach tingles as if butterflies were fluttering around in it and your head doesn't do what you want anymore, which means you always have to act in the moment. Besides, in the presence of the person you get very warm and your heart beats faster.", He told me. Oh my gosh! I was in love with Soviet the whole time and I didn't even know it! Should I tell him and tell him, but how should I tell him? He's going to be married to Afghanistan in a year and what if he didn't love me or maybe I don't love him after all? Maybe I had something else and I'm not in love with him.

I wanted to say the whole thing to Soviet. But what if we are no longer friends or whatever we are? What if it makes him hate me and maybe even start a war against the kingdom? I was exaggerating again! "Reich?", Nick asked me and I didn't even notice. "Sorry! What was the question again?", I asked, I was so

uncomfortable that I was again too deeply lost in my thoughts. He repeated: "Who are you in love with?" "In the one with whom I spent my best memory together.", I replied rather nervously. "Are you in love with someone?", I asked him back.

Nick replied: "Yes, for me it is also the one with whom I share my best memories." Did he mean me? "Please don't be frightened.", Nick asked me. I watched him get up, walk in front of me, and take something from his coat out of his pocket. What he took was a small potion of honey-yellow liquid. Was that a transformation potion?! Who was he? Nick took a small sip of the liquid before putting it back in his pocket. Nick came up to me, put the basket aside and took me by my hands. He pulled me up, put a hand on my hip and put his lips on mine. That was my first kiss.

I closed my eyes and enjoyed that first kiss. Shortly afterwards I opened my left eye a little and saw his red skin with the symbol of hammer, sickle and star on his closed eye. I could not believe it! Nick really was Soviet the whole time! I'm happy that Soviet was the one who kissed me, but why was he here? Slowly he removed his lips from me. I slowly opened my eyes again. His eyes were golden and glittered beautifully in the light. I put my hands on his chest and he put his other hand around my back. He smiled at me so sweetly that I felt my heart beat faster.

My heart beat faster because of him. "Don't you want to show me your real beautiful face too, Reich?", Soviet asked me calmly. Somehow I can't get a word out, so I just nodded slightly. Soviet took the potion out of his pocket and gave it to me. I carefully took the potion and took a sip of it before giving him his potion back. He put the potion back in his pocket and pulled me closer to him. He hugged me gently. I put my arms around him on it. How did he find out who I was? Why does it feel so good to be with him? He let go of me again, then I looked up at him.

"You are even more beautiful than I remember you.", he said in a beautiful tone. Somehow it made me feel warmer. What was wrong or right with me? What did he do to me? Was the Soviet really in front of me and kissed me? Did I imagine the whole thing? I did not understand the world anymore. Soviet Union then asked me: "Why so quiet?" He put one of his large and warm hands on my left cheek.

How could someone with his big strength, just be so gentle? And more importantly, did he love me? He definitely wouldn't have kissed me if he didn't love me.

Chapter 5

I opened my mouth, but nothing came out. What happened to me Soviet Union started to giggle and gave me a quick kiss on the cheek. I liked him kissing me, but I still didn't quite understand why. "You know Reich, actually my plan was to earn money, buy me a house, kidnap you, confess my love to you and then live with you, but it probably turned out a little differently. The main thing is that we are fine and you now know that I love you and that since we first met, I fell in love with you. I think that's called love at first sight~ ", he said, coming closer to me with his face while looking at me in love.

He pulled me closer and put his lips lightly on mine again. Did he really love me? You can't just say it like that, can you? I put my arms around him and closed my eyes again to sink into the moment. His lips were big and warm, but also a little rough, but it felt beautiful. Soviet put his arms around me. Why did it feel so good? Why was my stomach and head tingling? Why did I want to kiss Soviet Union forever? What's right or wrong with me? Is this really happening right now? Slowly, he broke the kiss and I slowly opened my eyes again. Somehow I had to smile and he was smiling too.

He seemed somehow darker red than usual and everything felt even warmer to me than before. When I found my voice again I said quietly: "I love you Soviet." That made Soviet smile even more. He said: "Reich I love you too~" I felt even warmer. What's going on with me!? He came up to my face again and kissed me shorter, but also harder than before. Then he asked: "Shall we sit down again?" I nodded because I found it more comfortable to sit than to stand. When he walked behind me, Soviet Union still had one arm around my hip and the other he ran his hand around my body.

Soviet sat on a stone. He patted his lap with his hands. I knew that meant he wanted me to sit on his lap. I was getting warmer again and he started giggling. What was so funny? I went to him and sat

on his lap. He put his arms around my stomach and started kissing my cheek over and over again. It tickled and I enjoyed it a lot. How did he know it felt so good? After a short time he stopped kissing my cheek, pulled me even closer and snuggled his head against my cheek. I snuggled up against him as well as I relaxed.

"Has anyone ever told you how cute you are~", he asked, again with that emphasis that made everything so warm. How could he make everything get so warm? I replied stuttering: "N-No one except y-you." Why did I stutter? What's going on with me? What was Soviet Union doing to me? I snuggled closer to his chest while he positioned one arm a little further up and pressed me even closer to his chest. It was comforting and it made me relax even more. I felt safe and protected by him.

Why does Soviet seem so flawless and perfect to me? Soviet Union is simply indescribable. There aren't enough words to describe him. Soviet is beautiful, friendly, loving, caring, warm and cuddly, gently and so much more! How could he be so wonderful? I snuggled up against him and he ran his hand along my side. Why was there such a chaos of emotions in me? I wanted to kiss Soviet Union again, so I turned even more to him and kissed his lips. I pulled him closer to me and he ran his hand over my back. I never wanted to leave Soviet Union again. Was there any way I could stay forever with him?

After a short time, Soviet Union broke the kiss and kissed me again briefly. I smiled at him, but the position was rather uncomfortable as I turned my body almost 180 degrees. Soviet probably noticed it because he suggested: "Reich, maybe you will sit down so that you don't have to turn around to me." I agreed with him, even though I didn't know how to sit down like this: "Good idea!" I got up again and turned to him, also giving him a questioning look. Soviet understood and lifted one leg from me with his hands, then he put my leg around his hip.

Then he put an arm around me so that he could catch me and took my other leg so that it also wrapped around his hip. I was pulled closer to him that I was sitting on his lap with my legs wrapped around him. Then he kissed me on the lips and let his hands wander under my top, where he stroked me with his warm hands. It felt so

good! How could he do it so well and how did he know how good that was? I really enjoyed the moment. "Andreas!", I heard somewhere in the distance behind me. I guess it was Rosi who was looking for me. I was disappointed, but slowly got up and kissed Soviet one last time before saying goodbye, taking a sip of the potion and taking the basket with me.

I still have so many memories of the day I got my first kiss. For me it's the best thing that could ever happen. I miss these times. Now I'm lonely and lying here with no real destination. My great love, has too many duties to fulfill and I am the homeless man believed dead, who couldn't be killed. I will return to him! I'll see him again in at least a moon, if he hasn't already forgotten me. Soviet I'll come back to you! I don't care that after what I know you have a wife and at least one child. I will come to you!

I love you Soviet Union and I will love you forever!

Chapter 6

I love him and I would love to spend my whole life by his side. How can I love just an emperor? I also belonged to a royal family, but now I am nothing! I am not a king or a prince and have been cast out by my family. I could never get close to Soviet. I have nothing and I cannot give anything. I need an idea, but first I want to think and remember the most beautiful moon of my life.

I thought about Soviet Union all night, especially when he told me he loved me, which was a couple of days ago, I couldn't get the moment out of my head. We met every day and showed us in our true form. The idea that we showed ourselves without human form came from him. I thought it was a wonderful idea. The time with him was great and I wouldn't want to trade it for anything in the world. We had made an appointment to swim in the pond and I was looking forward to it so much. I was afraid of depth, but I was guaranteed to get it under control for a while, thanks to him.

Together with him, I was able to solve any problem. I thought about Soviet for a long time before I fell asleep.

Around noon I went to the pond. As always, I enjoyed the nature around me and watched how flies, bees, wasps, bumblebees, butterflies and other insects rushed through the forest. This part of the forest was always so busy, which I really liked. Birds flew over my head and from the chirping I knew that there were mainly blackbirds and sparrows in the area. I could also hear a nuthatch and a chaffinch, no, even two chaffinches. I really liked birds and have already learned a lot about them. I would love to be able to fly like a bird and be as free as them.

Maybe I'll turn into a bird. It was with Countryhumans that when we were around 20 years old, we inherited traits or skills from our family. It was something like that with Statehumans, but not something common as with Countryhumans. My family is known for black wings, invisibility, sharp teeth, and flexibility. My father has the flexibility and the sharp teeth. It was extremely rare that someone had all the skills, I even heard that it was next to impossible. I hoped I would only get the wings, I wouldn't need any more of the skills. I was hoping to get the most beautiful wings from the whole family.

There was also an old legend, which I didn't know then, that there were Countryhumans who had a second color on their wings. The rarest of the additional colors is white, this color brought infinite misfortunes and many deaths to everyone around them. These Countryhumans have been cast out and exiled from the country or in some cases even killed.

Unfortunately, I had this bad luck and was expelled, cast out by my family and even almost killed and that is the main reason why I did not return to Soviet.

In Soviet's family, golden wings, bear-like fangs, tremendous physical strength and strong regenerative powers were known. Soviet would look so beautiful with gold wings and it would match his golden eyes so well. I had finally arrived and saw Soviet in front of me, welcoming me with his big smile. Immediately I ran up to him and jumped at him. Unfortunately, the Soviet overlooked the fact that I jumped up on him and so we both landed on the ground.

When I noticed this, I started laughing and Soviet Union joined in. I snuggled up against him and he put his arms around me. When I looked at his face, he had a big beautiful smile on his face.

How could Soviet be so wonderful? He was so amazing and I would do anything to see his beautiful smile. Soviet kissed my forehead and we slowly got up again. "Ready for swimming Reich?", he asked me. "Just have to take off some clothes and drink the potion.", I answered him. He said: "As you can see, I have to do the same." We drank some of the reconversion potion. When I took off my jacket I got help from Soviet, which I thought was really nice of him. Then I took off my top and my trousers and he also helped me with both. "You look even cuter that way~" purred Soviet, which made me blush again.

He always found the right words. I also helped Soviet Union undress, so we both stood there with only our underpants on. When he finished undressing, I stroked his warm chest and rested my head on it. Soviet stroked my body as I snuggled up against him. He came closer to me with his face and I kissed him. Then we smiled at each other and he also gave me a quick kiss. The time with Soviet was the best time there was.

Soviet Union picked me up and carried me to the water while I clung to him tightly. He walked slowly into the water, knowing that I couldn't just jump into the water without thinking about it like him. I slowly got used to the temperature of the water as he carefully went deeper into the water. I saw something too much in the pond again and in fear clung stronger to Soviet, who stopped and stroked my back while he whispered to me: "Everything is good, Reich. I am with you and nothing will happen to you. I know you think there is a monster in the depths of this pond, but there is nothing here. There are fish, but I can't see any more. Even if the water is clear here, I couldn't see a monster here."

Soviet was the best at putting my fears away for a while. I was calmer again and he went deeper into the water again. At some point we were so far in that I was up to my chest in the water. "It doesn't get much deeper.", he said and I let go of him a little. However, I saw some movement underwater and I clung to Soviet again as I began to shiver. "Just a fish.", he said reassuringly and

stroked my back again. Fortunately I had Soviet Union with me.

Chapter 7

I slowly stopped shaking and slowly let go of him after I had calmed down enough. I carefully put my foot on the ground and gradually let go of Soviet Union, as I was slowly becoming more certain that nothing would eat me. Soviet still had his arms around me, making sure I still felt safe. I was standing on the bottom with water up to my shoulders and since I didn't move that much, it felt very cold to me. I felt a slight pressure on my cheek. Soviet Union kissed my cheek briefly. "My brave Reich.", he whispered.

I felt really good from it. He made me so happy. I gave him a hug and kissed his cheek as well. He gave me his beautiful smile and hugged me tightly. It made me feel warmer again. I let go of him and started swimming. I swam around him, then he swam with me. At some point we had a water fight and watched the animals in the pond until I got a bite from a Brem. Brem was the Bavarian name for a blood-sucking insect, actually called horsefly, in German it sounded too much like part of a car to me. Horsefly bites were worse than mosquito bites and they usually bit horses after what I heard about them and from their name.

Soviet grabbed something against the bite while I kept diving under in the pond so that it couldn't bite me again. Soviet Union came with towels and a cream for the bite. Then I ran out of the water to him and he put towels around me. After he was sure I wouldn't be cold, he took care of the itchy and painful bite. Then he put a towel around himself and we sat on the forest ground. I sat on his lap again and he kissed and cuddled with me.

All of these memories make me so sad. I miss him so much. I love him and would love to be with him. But what if he pushed me away like my family? Does he still love me or has he forgotten me? Why didn't he look for me? Why do I even want to see him again? Why am I still in love with him? Do I even want to be in love with him? Why am i afraid? Why is everything so difficult and so complicated? Soviet tell me was our love real? Is our love one-sided? Have you forgotten me already? Do you miss me? Are you going to hurt me? Should I even love you? Why couldn't I just burn to death in the flames?!

Half a moon had passed and I and Soviet were a couple. I know we hadn't spent that much time together, but we love each other so I didn't care. Lukas kept making fun of me because I loved a boy, but he could turn anything I made into a joke. Soviet and I stayed overnight together again and again and helping each other with work. We were together for most of the day. We would also be guaranteed to have enough money at the end of the moon to be able to live together. I was looking forward to it so much. We hardly thought of our families anymore, except when we made fun of them.

I was lying next to Soviet Union and was slowly waking up because he had kissed me. He smiled warmly at me and kissed me again. However, I was still tired as we had played cards all evening. He had won almost every round, which made me laugh the whole time. How could he have such a lucky streak? The total of points was 125 to my 19 points at the end. Normally I was the king of card and board games, but I lost heavily against Soviet Union. Sometimes I could lose too, and with Soviet I didn't mind anyway and rather made me laugh. I rubbed the sleep from my eyes.

Then I asked him: "What time is it?" "It's 10 o'clock," he replied. It was way too early. I'm guaranteed not to get up now. Then I snuggled up to him again so that I had a comfortable position and stayed where I was. Soviet kissed me again. He couldn't even let me sleep. I am tired. "Stand up, you sleepyhead.", he annoyed me. I grumbled: "My head hurts and it's too early to get up!" My head always hurts when my body thinks I'm not getting enough sleep. Thereupon Soviet left me in peace and lay down next to me a little more. Slowly I was getting tired again, but I couldn't fall asleep any more.

Why do I have to remember something like this? It's been six years. Soviet why didn't you look for me? I've live near the pond in the area of your empire for four years. I've lived here ever since I ran away and escaped death.

Chapter 8

I can remember so well when I almost died and ran away like it happened yesterday.

Four years ago I got my wings overnight. When I realized that I had wings I was over the moon. I was already able to make myself invisible and I had the flexibility. Maybe I could sneak out of the palace soon. I spread my wings for the first time and saw that they had white tips and white speckles in some places. I found the wings so beautiful that I wanted to show them to everyone. I didn't know the old fairy tale about the wings of death then. I ran to show my little brother my wings. But everyone froze on the way to him. At the time I thought it was because they didn't expect me to get wings.

When I got to my brother Weimar, I woke him up. But when he woke up and saw my wings, he got scared and hid under his

blanket. "Bruder was ist los? (Brother what's up?)", I asked confused. I didn't get an answer from him, just a little whimper of fear. My father then walked into the room and looked at me with a mixture of hatred and fear. I'd never had that look from him, not even as he found out that I and Soviet are together. He kind of scared me. To be on the safe side, I looked around to make sure he really meant me. He really meant me with the look, but still I didn't understand what was going on.

My father paused in the doorway, but soon he stepped aside as royal guards rushed into the room. They held my arms and tied my wings so tight that I thought they were trying to stop blood from flowing through them. Scared I asked: "Was ist los? (What's going on?)" Nobody gave me an answer, they got me out of the room as fast as they got in. "Papa?! (Dad?!)", I called, but it didn't help. I was taken to the prison and locked up there for a week with no food. I was skinny and lay on the floor. Nobody came down to me in the whole week. I had already freed my wings on the first day.

I didn't understand what was going on. I wanted answers, but got none. I was cleaning my feathers when I heard footsteps. Immediately I ran to the bars and saw my father. I really thought he would get me out, but I was wrong about that. Father stood in front of the cell across from me and looked at me with hatred. What was I doing wrong? "Großdeutsches Reich du bist eine Schande für die ganze Familie! (Greater German Reich you are a shame for the whole family!)", he shouted. He didn't even say 'son' to me anymore. Why was he doing that? Why? Reich the Second shouted: "As of today you are no longer part of the family!" His words were like a stab in the heart. What was wrong with me? What I have done wrong? Tell me!

While I don't want to be part of the royal family, my family was usually nice to me because they were still my family and loved me. "Als König dieses Königreiches, werde ich den der die Flügel des Todes trägt vor dem Leid, dass er mit sich trägt erlösen und mein Königreich beschützen! Der der die Flügel des weißen Todes trägt wird heute Mitternacht auf dem Scheiterhaufen verbrannt! (As king of this kingdom, I will redeem the one with the wings of death from the suffering that he carries with him and protect my kingdom! The

one with the wings of white death will be burned at the stake at midnight today!)", he shouted. My heart stopped beating. Somehow I had the feeling that he meant me. Wings of white death? Who the hell thinks wings could bring death? Wings were a symbol of freedom and peace, not death.

He just left like nothing had happened while I started crying in shock and fear. Did they really believe that these wings could bring death? Back then I thought I was going to die midnight tonight. I would be burned alive and everyone would celebrate like I was a wicked witch. I never did anything to anyone. Night fell and I was getting more and more scared. I was just panicking. If I died now, I would never see Soviet again, never see his smile again. I will never kiss or hug him again. I didn't want to die that night.

But just making it invisible and sneaking out wouldn't help, as my father had definitely told the guards about it. After a while an idea occurred to me, since I had got sharp teeth during the days in the prison, I could just break free. I thought my plan through to the end and hope it would work out or else I would be burned alive. When I heard footsteps, I made myself invisible to fake an attempt to escape. Four people came into the room with a net while I pressed myself against the wall. They spread the net and went forward, right towards me. I jumped against the net, but they wrapped it around me.

Then I was caught in the net. I became visible again and taken out of the prison. I defended myself and was taken outside. I already saw the pyre. My heart stopped. Now it was life or death. I only had one more chance. They took me over the wood to a wooden stake where they tied me up. I was scared and panicked. I saw the people in front of me. My family was there. Had they told Soviet? Was he there and was afraid for me? I was scared like never before in my life. Tears ran down my face. My father addressed a few more words to the audience.

The wood was then set on fire. The smoke was uncomfortable and made me panic even more. Slowly the fire got bigger and bigger. I looked up at the starry night sky. The moon was behind me, but his light lit up the place, even if the fire was very bright, the moonlight seemed stronger to me. After a while the flames had almost reached

me, but the fire below was already so high that I could now begin to bite myself free. The heat and smoke were terrible, but I had to hold out. I had to get out. I didn't want to get burned. I didn't want to die! I wanted to live and go back to Soviet!

I had bitten myself free, made myself invisible and used my wings for the first time. Then I screamed as loud as never before. Part of the burning wood collapsed and I fluttered further down. I screamed one last time before I got away and hid as quickly as I could.

That was the most terrible thing what I have experienced in my entire life. It is burned into my memory to this day.

Chapter 9

Soviet I can still remember the promise you made to me seven years ago.

I and Soviet had a picnic meeting. We wanted to eat together and watch the stars. "Get da Prinz auf a Verabredung mit seim Liebhober? (Is the prince going on a date with his lover?)", Lukas annoyed me again. I answer him calmly: "Joa! Host du eigentlich an Liebhober? (Yes! Do you actually have a lover?)" "Na! I bin ned so bled und verliab me in irgend an Typen! (No! I'm not that stupid and fall in love with some guy!)", he claimed. "Des wer ma scho seng! (We'll see!)", I said before I ran out of the house with my basket full of food. I went to the pond where we met every day.

Soviet Union wasn't there yet, so I prepared everything in advance. I put a large blanket on the grass and sat on it. I put the food on the blanket and lay down to wait for Soviet. I watched the clouds above

me and felt myself getting more and more tired. I was slowly getting tired. When I thought I was going to sleep, someone kissed my lips. I opened my eyes and saw Soviet sitting there. He held out his hand and helped me up. I immediately wrapped my arms around him and snuggled up against him. Shortly afterwards we had a bite to eat and talked. We told each other stories and made jokes.

Watching the stars was wonderful and we even saw shooting stars again and again, to which we gave our wishes. "Reich?", asked Soviet, "What if we would promise each other, if we are torn apart, that we will meet again here in exactly 89 moons? We will meet here to show that we will never forget each other and still love each other." I thought the idea was fantastic. "With pleasure, because I already know that we don't have to prove the whole thing, because I love you with all my heart and I would never forget you and the same applies to you.", I said happily. "That's exactly how I see it, but still this promise would be nice.", he said.

I hope he keeps his promise and will come to me. Maybe I think too much about the past. I would like to see how Soviet is doing again

before I fall asleep. I slowly get up from the floor and stretch. It is sometimes a bit uncomfortable to sleep on the stones, but I can't steal anything as big as a mattress. I'm going out of my little cave. The moonlight illuminates the world around me. I slowly spread my wings. I raise my wings in the air and jump off the ground. I push the air down with my wings and gradually rise into the air. Below me are villages, forests, fields and streams.

Seeing the world from up here is still like a dream for me every time. I really like these wings. I keep flying higher and higher. I fly over hills and mountains. I arrived. It is a valley and in the middle of the valley is a hill on which the castle stands. The castle was impressive and large. I slowly glide towards the balcony and land on the railing. I look through the window and see Soviet sleeping next to his wife. His face looks so relaxed and calm. Slowly the blanket rises through his deep breaths. Soviet Union is surely happy without me. What if I would ruin him his wonderful life, if I would just show up out of nowhere?

I'm getting sad and jealous again. How could they have stolen everything from me? I have no rights, no freedom, no home, no friends, no happiness, even my great love is no longer with me. All I have left are unhappiness, memories and my life, but I don't want that, not even my life, if I can't be with the one I love with all my heart. I turn around and jump off the balcony. I spread my wings and fly back to my cave. I look back one more time and I am overwhelmed by sadness again. I want to be with Soviet again, I want to cuddle up to him and whisper to him that I love him.

Why is life just so unfair to me? I fly over the mountains and back into the valley in which I live. Why don't I just sneak into the castle? Actually, I could try and see how good he is without me. The main thing is that I can be close to him! But what if that's right about the wings and I really ruin his life? It's worth a try! But what if that attempt cost him his life? Then I have no more sense of existence or should I play the villain who just kills everyone because of my curse? No, I can't and don't want to hurt anyone, but I still want revenge on my ones so called 'family'!

They deserve to pay for what they did to me! But I can't do anything to them either. Going back to the idea from earlier. What

if I try to get in through my art? I think I am too bad at drawing for that. What if I steal something and pretend to be looking for it? No, way too obvious and I'm not that good at stealing. What about singing? How do I get such an idea? I'm even worse at singing or playing an instrument. I have arrived at my cave. I slowly prepare to land. After landing, I go into the cave where I sit on the floor.

I just came up with a plan. What if I take a strong magic potion to make me look human, then steal food in town for a while and get caught near the castle. Maybe I'll be taken to Soviet Union and I'll tell him I need food. Then I can only hope that I can stay with him at the castle. Stupid plan, but the best plan I have. I'll start tomorrow, but it's the middle of the night now. I lie down on the floor and wrap my wings around me, as they were warm and cuddly and put my head on my arm as a pillow. I look at my wings one last time before blowing out the candles with a flap of my wings. Are my wings really a curse?

Chapter 10

"Hello Reich!" I hear Soviet say. I look around and see that I am in my family's palace. I take a few steps down the hall. "Come to me Reich!", calls out Soviet after me. I call: "Where are you Soviet?" "I'm here.", he calls out and I run to my room because my feeling tells me he's there. I open the door and take a few steps into my room. A dark figure stands in front of the window with its back to me. I slowly go to the figure. "Soviet?", I ask uncertainly when I want to put my hand on his shoulder. "Du hast hier nichts zu suchen. (You shouldn't be here.)", says the figure, in a different voice than that of Soviet and in German.

"Du hättest in dem Feuer verbrennen sollen! (You should have burned in the fire!)", yells the figure, who turns around to me. It's my father's Second Reich. I flinch and look at him, scared. Suddenly I can no longer move my hands and noticed that they are tied together. When I look up again, I'm back at the stake, from back then. I tried to bite myself free, but this time it was metal chains. The fire is getting closer and closer to me and more fear and panic is coming over me. I pull and pull, but I can't get the chains down. This is my end! Soviet please come and save me!

The monstrous heat of the fire is terrible. I suddenly see someone with golden wings above me. I need the one with the golden wings! He will save me! But I could already feel the fire burning my trousers. The fire is closer than ever before. "Soviet!", I shout in fear. I need him! He is my last hope! The one with the golden wings reaches out a hand to me. I am about to take it when my body starts to burn. I cry out from the pain. Everything is on fire! It's over! Nobody can help me anymore! I suddenly wake up. Was that just a nightmare? Why did it feel so real?

What is the meaning of the dream and who is the one with the golden wings? I'll worry about it later. I need breakfast first. I get up and check if I have something to eat here. I only find moldy berries. I will probably have to steal again. I take a strong potion

with me and make myself invisible before I get out of my hiding place and fly away. I'm flying over the mountains and to the city in front of the castle. After I land, I drink the potion, make myself visible in a corner and walk out of the little hiding place. I look around. Some people, especially women, stare at me. What do they want? Some wagons of goods are pulled through the streets by horses.

A woman comes up to me and asks me: "What's your name?" I find it very strange, but she doesn't ask anything bad. "My name is Nick.", I answer her. "My name is Susanne. It is an honor to meet you Nick. Do you live here?" Why does she have to ask so many questions? I reply: "No, I just wanted to see the city once." "How long do you need to come here?", she asks me. She annoys me with all her questions. "Several hours because I live near the border," I tell her. She suggests: "If it takes that long, you could stay with me for a night~" I don't like the emphasis she uses. I'm sure she's up to something and I don't like that at all.

"No thanks, I already have a place to stay for tonight." I say quickly to shake her off. You should leave me alone! "Really? That's a shame. Maybe we could go for an ice cream.", she suggests. "No thanks, I didn't come to this town to have ice cream with anyone.", I tell her irritably. She seems angry, but I quickly turn the corner to finally shake her off. I'm going around a bit. I'm already very close to the castle. There are some food stalls on the streets. This is what I was looking for. I don't see any guards or anything like that.

I mix in with the crowd and steal some fruit and vegetables. At some point you notice me: "Thief! Food thief!" Now I have to run! I run into a corner and make myself invisible before I drink the reconversion potion and fly away. People are still looking for me. I am flying back successfully. Once in the cave, I eat some of the delicious fruit. I'll steal something again later so that I can get more attention. I remember the day Soviet and I were separated.

"Hello Soviet!", I shouted as I hugged him from behind and looked up at him. "Good morning Reich! How are you, my little prince?", he asked me kindly as he pulled me over to him and hugged me. His warmth felt so wonderful. "Fantastic! And how is it with you?", I asked. He replied: "Fantastic too, because you are with me!" I kissed his cheek before he put his lips on mine. We kissed for a while before he sat down on a stone, I sat on his lap and kissed every inch of his face as he stroked my back. Life was so good with him. "Reich we only need a few more days until we can live together.", He informed me.

I said: "Great news!" "I know!", he agreed, "Then we can stay together forever. Maybe we could adopt children too." "We still have to talk about children.", I said, as I was still unsure. "You decide!", he said. He always gave me every decision. I always thought that was really cute of him. I'm not ready to look after children yet. Children are cute, but a lot of work that I'm not ready for yet. "Can we get a dog?", I asked him. He said: "Anytime!" I would love to have a dog. I could take care of a dog, but I stick to the fact that children are too much work.

Chapter 11

He kissed my cheek over and over again. It felt so good and Soviet Union was always so gentle with me. It tickled and felt so nice. He always made me feel so incredibly good. "I never want to be separated from you again. You are the love of my life and you are the most important thing in the whole world for me.", Soviet said to me. His words were full of heart. As I was about to say something back, I heard: "Son?" I looked to the right where the voice was coming from. Soviet Union father stood there looking extremely angry. I buried my face in Soviet's jacket in fear.

He held me tight, which gave me a little more security. "D-Dad?", asked Soviet. Russian Empire roared: "What are you doing here and why are you kissing this guy?!" "Dad, I love him, that's why I kiss Reich.", replied Soviet Union. I heard Russian Empire growl. I was really scared. Soviet took me carefully by my chin and lifted my face up to his head before placing his lips on mine. It felt very good, but in front of his father, I was a little uncomfortable especially because his father was in a really bad mood.

"Reich!?", I heard from the left. It was my father. Now the fathers of both of us were on both sides. We didn't have a chance to escape. After the kiss, Soviet looked me in the eyes and whispered: "See you in 88 moons my beloved Reich. I'll be there and wait for you.", he kissed me one last time before we were grabbed and torn apart.

I love Soviet Union so much. I just want to be with him and snuggle up to him. Why were we just torn apart? Once I'm with him, I'll never leave him again. But what if he does love Afghanistan and has already forgotten me? What if he wants to kill me just like my father? What if Afghanistan loves him? What if he forgot our time together? What if he thinks I'm dead? Why do I ask myself so many questions? Soviet still loves me and he's just waiting for me to come to him... at least I hope so. I don't know what to do when he doesn't love me anymore.

I draw a little before I make myself invisible and walking through the woods to get down. I'll take some herbs with me so I can make more of the strong negotiation potion. I have enough of the Reconversion Potion for more than one moon, but I need more of the negotiation potion because it would only last for a few days. I noticed that I was missing the last ingredient. I have to steal this one. Immediately I make my way into town. At the market I look around and grab the ingredient. After I steal another apple and a pear, people recognize me: "This is the thief from before!" And again they chase me.

It gets noisy, especially because those idiots who are chasing me tried to shoot me. Have they completely lost their minds? The animals nearby go crazy. Suddenly I see a presumably 5 year old girl on the street who is concentrating too much on the apple she is eating. A panicked horse runs straight towards the little child. I don't care about the stupid people behind me, now I have to save the child. I run as fast as I can in the direction of the child and push her to the side before the horse can hurt her. I fall stomach first on the floor, which hurts and slide a few meters further until I stop against a wall.

That was a terrific crash landing, the main thing is that the child is not hurt. Immediately I get up as if nothing had happened and go to the little girl. "Are you all right?", I ask . She replies: "Y-yes, thanks for saving me!" I smile at her and I tell her: "No prob-" I'm being held on by both sides. "Now we have you!", says one of the guards excited. Well, really great! I completely forgot about them. I'm being taken away from them. I'm being taken away from the castle. I shouldn't have tried to steal anything from here. I might even be late for my meeting with Soviet. Why did I get this stupid idea?

"Stop!", I hear a woman calling behind me. The men stop. When I look, Afghanistan is in front of me. I've never been so happy to see her. "What did this man do?", she asks. One of the guards replies: "He stole food." "And that's why you're making such a huge riot? If this man hadn't saved the child, it would have died because of you.", she growls. She asks me: "What's your name?" "M-My name is Nick.", I answer her. "Nice to meet you Nick. Why are you stealing food?", asks Afghanistan. I answer her: "I have no work and no money." "Do you have any special skills?", she asks me.

Will she help me? Other than supposedly bringing bad luck to everyone, I have no skills. "I... I can draw.", I answer, as it is the best I can think of. "I would like to help you. Let go of him!", she orders the guards, who let go of me immediately. "If you want a job, come with me.", she clarifies and walks towards the castle. Is she really that nice to me or is she hiding something? I don't quite trust her. But this is my only chance to come to Soviet Union. I follow her to the gate, where she stops and smiles at me.

Chapter 12

I am a little bit nervous. "You will wait behind the gate because I have to get some things. I want to find out how good you are at painting.", Afghanistan informs me before she opens the gate and goes inside. So will I first draw a picture to show how good I am and only then will she decide what should happen to me? I follow her inside. She closes the gate and walks along the gravel path to the castle while I stand here. On her way to the castle, she keeps looking back at me. At some point she disappears into the castle while I look at the surroundings. I see oaks, walnut trees, hazelnut bushes, beech trees, ginkgo trees and other plants in the area.

I look at the castle. At some point I feel that someone is watching me. I'm looking for that one. I see someone standing on the balcony that I landed on yesterday. The person on the balcony looks over at me. The person has their hair tied to a ponytail and he looks pretty big. Unfortunately I cannot see the color or other details because he is too far away from me. Is that Soviet? Only the royal family lives on the top floor. Yes, then it has to be Soviet. Someone shorter than him runs to him. Is that one of his children? Soviet bends over to the little child and wraps a wing around the child.

Soviet Union has wings? Then he must have big golden wings that have no white spots or white tips that will only get you into trouble. I like my wings, but they still only get me into trouble. Soviet picks up the child and goes down from the balcony. I hear footsteps and look at Afghanistan, which is just coming towards me. She has paints, brushes and other things with her. "Come with me, Nick.", she said as she walks off the gravel path and disappears behind a few trees. I run to her and see that she is putting something up in front of a raspberry bush. She gives me the order: "You will paint the raspberry bush and the flowers around it."

I nod to show her that I understood it. Then she says: "If you need something or if you are ready, go to the guard at the entrance of the castle." "Thank you so much for everything, Afghanistan.", I thank

her and bow to her. I hate bowing to others, it always makes me feel so worthless. But I still want to show her my gratitude. "You're welcome.", she says before going back to the castle. I draw the outline of the plants and the background before I realize I get a headache. I just have to hold out for a few more hours. I start painting. As I suspected, it took me several hours to complete the picture.

My head is hurting more and more and the sun is just about to set, which I don't like at all because I'm a little afraid of the dark. Fortunately, I finished the picture. I'm taking it to the guards in front of the castle. "Can you please tell Afghanistan that I'm done with the picture?", I asked. Then one of them went inside while I was putting all the things together. At some point she comes to me and helps me with the transport. Afghanistan is really a lot nicer than I expected. When I showed her the picture, she was incredibly excited about it. "The picture is unbelievably beautiful! How did you manage to make the picture in just four hours? That is unbelievable!", she says, "I will immediately show it to my husband!"

It hurts inside when she calls Soviet Union her husband. "But first I'll show you your room.", she added. Afghanistan takes me by the hand and goes with me to a large room where were the stairs. We walk up one floor and she leads me down a long hallway. When we got to the room, there was a bed, a window, a chest of drawers, a desk and a cupboard in the room, with another room, which was probably the bathroom. "You're staying here for a few minutes because I have to talk to my husband, then I'll show you around if he agrees," she informs me.

"See you in a minute.", I say. She says back: "See you then!" I take a look at the room before I get a stronger headache. That stupid stuff! Because of my wings I need a strong transformation potion and this leads to a strong headache after a certain time. But if I transform back, someone will find out who I am and I think that would only be worse. I take another sip of the strong transformation potion I have with me. I am not allowed to change back, no matter how much my head hurts. Wait a minute! I look at the door and see a key there. I could just lock the door while I need a break from the

potion.

Why didn't I check before I had a drink. I lock the door and drink the reconversion potion. My skin turns red again and my wings come back. Fortunately, I always wear something on the top that is way too tall for me and underneath that I wear extra clothes for Countryhumans who have wings. I can tailor clothes so that my wings don't have a problem. I lie down on the bed. It's so incredibly bouncy and cozy. I finally don't have to sleep on stones anymore. I have real luxury now. No more cold and hard bed made of stones! No simple fruits, but again cooked and prepared vegetables for me!

After years of living with other people again. I did all of this with stealing, rescuing, getting captured and draw a picture. Suddenly I am torn from my thoughts when I hear a knock on the door. "I'll be right there!", I shout and quickly drink the transformation potion. I wait a moment until I look like a human again and then open the door. My heart almost stops before it starts racing like mad when I see who is standing in front of the door and looks down at me. "So you are Nick, the one who is supposed to be the new artist in the palace?", asks Soviet in his beautiful deep and melodic voice. His voice sounds so incredibly beautiful. I'm so excited and my stomach feels so weird again.

That stupid feeling will probably never go away! "Y-yes, t-that's me!", I stutter. Why am I stuttering again?! Can't I just be normal! "Your picture is really very good, much better than I expected when Afghanistan first told me about you.", he says. My body is getting warmer again. I hate this feeling! Why can't it just go away after six years?! "T-Thank you!", I stutter. Has he noticed that something is going on? What if he just saw me and knows who I am? What if he knows I'm still in love with him? Can this stupid emotional chaos finally stop?!

Chapter 13

"Nick, you will be working as an artist in this castle from now on.", announces Soviet Union with a smile. Is he serious? The main thing is that I am close to him. "T-That's great!", I say, smiling. Will I ever stop stuttering?! "I'll get you in half an hour for dinner, because you do not even know your way around the castle. Afghanistan said she'll show you around soon. Do the cooks need to know there's something you don't like?", he asks. I think about it for a moment and stutterly inform him: "I-I am very afraid of m-meat. I've had a bad experience and s-since then I get a panic attack if I get too close to m-meat."

I feel a little uncomfortable and I rub my neck a little. "You don't have to be uncomfortable. I will make sure that there is no meat around you.", Soviet assures me. I am very relieved. I've always been a vegetarian, but with the thing about being burned, I get panic attacks if I just have meat a little too close to me. I thank him: "T-Thank you very much!" Stupid stutter! "AU!", I shout too loudly because my head feels like an anvil has just fallen on my head. I have to support myself on the wall with one hand while holding onto the sore area with the other.

"What's wrong?", asks Soviet Union worried and puts his big warm hand lightly on my shoulder. I have to come up with something! Come on Reich, think! I answer him: "I-I am having j-just a bad he-headache at the moment." I hope I don't have to come up with anything. Soviet asks me: "Do you have a remedy for it?" "I-I have no real r-remedy against it, the only t-thing I always do that helps a l-little is to stay away from s-situations that are s-stressful for me for a day.", I answer him. The pain slowly stops. Luckily! I don't want to be like that in front of Soviet, I feel so uncomfortable.

The Soviet shouldn't take care of me, I'm fine and I don't need or want any help. I'm not even worth anyone to take care of me. I am from society, the lowest level of living beings. I don't even deserve to live or exist. I don't want him to worry about me. "Are you

feeling better?" He asks me. Do I feel better? I feel terrible and you are not improving the situation, emperor Soviet! I say: "Yes, I-I'm feeling a l-little bit better." I want to stop stuttering! Why is everything so incredibly complicated? My head can't get me to speak sensible and my heart is like a party that is too loud.

He asks me worried: "Are you sure?" Stop worrying about someone like me! "Y-yes, I am s-sure.", I answer him. He takes his hand away from me and I take my hands off my head. Soviet please just go and leave me alone. "If it gets worse, just go to the guards.", he informs me. "Y-yes, I will!", I lie to him. He walks slowly out of my room and says: "See you then." He still seems very worried about me. It's kind of cute. What am I thinking again? It's not cute, it's annoying! Or is it cute? I don't know! I lock the door and drink the reconversion potion again before lying on the bed.

I wrap my wings around me and take off my shoes. I imagine having Soviet with me again. I would lie in his arms and kiss his lips or cheek hundreds of times. I notice how close and how far I am to him at the same time. Is it a good idea to be here? I don't know! I pull myself together and I felt the tears come up again. Why do I have to be in so much pain? My head and my heart ache. My stomach hurts a little too because I'm hungry. I want to go back to Soviet. Somehow it still seems strange to me that I can work here so easily.

I lie there for a while longer and sum a few songs until there is a knock. I drink the potion that makes me human, put my shoes back on and open the door. Soviet stands in front of me because he's coming to pick me up. I walk next to him and try to follow him, but when I slow down, he slows down too. I always try to look to the right because I don't want to look at him. I don't want to make him feel uncomfortable and once I stare at him, I can't stop looking at his every elegant movement and I want to prevent that. We slowly go down the stairs where he leads me down a hallway.

He opens the door for me and lets me in first. I see a long table with a lot of people. "Come with me!", said Soviet and I followed him to my seat. I sit down slowly. I'm almost right next to him. There is only one chair between us. Soviet slowly sits down in his chair and waits. Isn't it actually the case that the king or emperor doesn't have

to wait and that the food is served on the table as soon as he is seated? It seems to be going a little differently here. The door opens and I look at the door, which is opened by two children. The two laugh and look very happy. The two are really cute and make me smile.

Then I realize that there are two Countryhuman children. The larger one has a white, blue, red face and the other has a yellow and blue face. These are Soviet's children! They are even more wonderful than I imagined or saw at night. Nice that he has such wonderful children. I could never have given him these angels. One of them sits down next to me. Shortly afterwards the food is put on the table and everyone grabs it, I wait a little longer, especially because I forgot which fork, knife and spoon are for what. In the end, I did it the way I want. After dinner I was more full than I had been for a long time. Everyone stands up after the royal family stands up.

When everyone spreads out, Afghanistan comes to me and takes my hand. She pulls me out of the room. I think she wants to show me the castle. Suddenly she presses me against the wall. What's wrong? Did I do something wrong? Is something because I no longer knew which fork was for what? She looks at me so strangely. What is she up to? I don't understand what's going on. "You're a really hot guy~", whispers Afghanistan with that strange emphasis that I don't like. What's wrong with her and what does she mean by what she just whispered? She runs her hand under my top and strokes my chest and stomach. I pull myself together a little from her touch.

I don't like that at all. What's wrong with her? Why is she doing that? I am really uncomfortable! She comes closer to my neck with her face. What is she up to? I feel really uncomfortable and I'm scared. I do not understand the situation. She comes way too close to me. But I can't defend myself, because I can not stand against the empress, because otherwise there will only be problems for me. I just let her do what she wants to me. I do not like this. "Afghanistan leave the poor artist alone!", I hear from Soviet, "He should draw and not become one of your toys." She makes it clear to him: "I only hired him because his body just looks perfect and not because of his picture."

Chapter 14

She only hired me because of my body? That really hurts me. She was so friendly and that only because of my stupid human body? Is she doing this to more people? "I don't care! He is the artist of my castle and you will please take your fingers off him immediately! You can see clearly that he doesn't like it at all!", orders Soviet Union Afghanistan. Afghanistan lets go of me and goes off in a huff. Soviet comes in front of me and bends down a little because he's at least one and a half to two heads taller than me. He looks a little depressed. He apologizes: "I'm sorry that she treated you like that and unfortunately it wasn't the first time she did something like this.

I'll make sure that something like that doesn't happen again." I nod and smile a little. Then he smiles too and walks down the hall with his children. Have I overlooked the children all the time? I slowly walk away from the wall and I'm trying to find out where to get to my room. I forgot the way to my room! I run quickly after Soviet Union and its children. They stop, turn to me and I get so uncomfortable again. "Firstly, thank you and secondly, I may have forgotten where my room was again.", I admit and look down a little because I feel uncomfortable. "Look at me.", Soviet tells me.

I do what he wants and look into his beautiful golden glittering eyes. He is so beautiful. "How about we show Nick the castle?", Soviet asks his children. They both nod and smile. I smile from it too. Soviet Union extends his left hand to me. I take his hand carefully and a little hesitantly. I walk next to him and one kid with the yellow and blue flag is holding onto Soviet's right arm while the other one walks forward and seems very excited. The two are so cute. Soviet has such wonderful children. Why can't I be a woman? If I were a woman I could give him children too. Afghanistan is so lucky! I'm so jealous again.

Why do I even think about it? However! Soviet seems happy. Belly stop tingling like that! The three lead me through the whole castle,

they even show me the top floor. I found out that the boy with the white, blue and red flag is called Russia and the boy with the yellow and blue flag is called Ukraine. The two got really nice names. The two children are really nice. My job for tomorrow is to paint the wall of their room with the children and I'm really looking forward to it.

I haven't seen Afghanistan for the rest of the time. Soviet Union also wanted to know a few things about me, for example, he wanted to know how old I am, because of my family and hobbies. I told him that I was 24 years old, that my family had abandoned me and that, in addition to drawing, I was a big music fan and that I enjoyed reading. He allows me to take instruments from the music room and that I can borrow books from the library. I also learned that he doesn't love Afghanistan and that he only has the children because his father forced him and her to do so. It is kind of a relief for me to know that, but also very sad.

He told me that Afghanistan had agreed with him that if both of them are with someone else and believe that it is true love, they will get divorce and because Afghanistan does not have such a strong bond with the children, Soviet would get them. Soviet Union is also still very empathetic, as I remember him. He is very positive and always full of hope. It hasn't changed much and I like that a lot. I'm just back in my room, hugging my pillow and imagining that I'm hugging him. I am looking forward to tomorrow. I get up again and open the window to make me invisible and fly out of my room.

I fly to the large balcony and look inside. They are not asleep yet. I hear that there is a discussion and see Afghanistan running out of the room and onto the balcony. I move aside and listen. "They're my people, so I can do whatever I want with him!", she yells as Soviet rushes over to her. Soviet makes it clear to her: "You cannot do what you want with people! They have dreams, desires and feelings, just like us! Just because we are Countryhumans doesn't mean that we can do what with normal people we want!" "You only say that because you have your eye on him!", claims Afghanistan.

"No, I haven't! I still love the same one, as I have si-", he wants to continue, but is interrupted by her. "He's dead! Damn it Soviet Union, he'll never come back to you! He's no longer alive, so give

up!", she yells. Is it about me? Soviet turns around and shortly before he goes in, he threatens her: "Don't come too close to him!" Soviet goes inside and changes clothes. Afghanistan says: "No way, the human is mine!" Then she goes inside again. I flutter back to my old cave. I take all potions and recipes with me. I'll make sure that I don't have to come back here in the near future and I'll fly back to my room.

I go through the forest to the pond and take a few steps into the water. I look around and enjoy the silence. The water is not as cold as I thought and I relax for a while. I hear footsteps behind me and someone kicks me in the back, causing my head to land in the water. I stand up and look at the person. Who is this? The person kicks me in the stomach and I pull myself together through the pain. I am roughly grabbed by the throat and pushed underwater. I hold my breath and try to kick or grip the person to loosen my neck. Nothing works, whoever it is is really strong. I have to take a breath! I need air!

I fight for a little while longer, but nothing changes except that I can no longer hold my breath. I breathe out slowly and take a deep breath. My lungs fill with water and it feels awful. My body wants to cough up the water, but more and more water is getting into my lungs. I slowly go black from the terrible pain in my chest. I wake up in bed bathed in sweat. Not another dream! Why do I always have to dream such garbage? I see that it's still dark outside. I don't want to fall asleep again, otherwise I'll have another nightmare and I just don't need that.

Chapter 15

I've been in my bed for half an eternity trying to stay awake. I decide to go to the library and borrow a few books. I quickly drink the light transformation potion, put something on and put a blanket over myself so that my wings cannot be seen. Why should anyone be awake at this time of the day, except for the guards who are only on the top floor and outside. I unlock the door and go downstairs. I open the library door and search the shelves for books that interest me. I found two books. One book was a love story and the other was about wings. I'm just leaving the library when I bump into something.

I fall backwards, but something or someone can still catch me with his or her hands. I slowly get up again and say thank him or her: "Thank you very much!" "You're welcome!", says a familiar voice, it is Soviet. What is he doing here in the middle of the night? I quickly pull the covers over myself a little more and am just about to pick up the books, but Soviet Union gets ahead of me and gives me the books. "Thank you again!", I thank him again. "What are you doing here anyway, in the middle of the night?", he asks me. Should I lie to him? Why should I lie to him? I'll just tell him the truth: "I had a nightmare and I'm trying to stay awake because I don't want to go through something like this again."

"The same is also the case with me. I often have nightmares these days and somehow I die in each of them.", says Soviet. Is that a coincidence? I have the same I inform him: "It's the same with me!" "Really?", He asks me. I answer him: "Yes!" "Can we take a walk before we go back to our rooms and read?" He offers me. I can't say 'no' to something like that. "With pleasure!", I answer a little happier. We walk out of the library together and I put the books in a corner before I run to him and take him outside to my left. It's quite fresh, which makes me snuggle up in the blanket even more.

"Have you ever fallen in love with someone?", Soviet asks me. What should I tell him? I answer him with a slight stutter: "Y-yes, I think

so and you?" He hangs his head a little before answering: "Me too, b-but I don't like to talk about it." I shouldn't have asked! Why did I ask him? "Have you ever thought that this might have something to do with your nightmares?", occurs to me out of nowhere. He looks at me with a questioning look. Soviet says: "I've thought of that before, but I didn't really see it as a reason. How did you come up with that?" "I think it could be the case with me, so I just thought it might be the same for you.", I tell him.

Headache again! My legs can no longer hold me and I get on my knees while holding my head with my hands. "Nick?!", Soviet Union sounds very worried about me. I hold myself over the floor with my hands. But I also lose my strength in my arms and almost fall if Soviet Union doesn't catch me. He puts the blanket around me a little more. Please don't spot my wings. I am lifted up by him so that I am in his arms. Soviet looks so worried. "What is wrong?", he asks me, very worried. "J-Just h-headache.", I answer him stuttering because of the pain.

Can a headache kill you? In any case, I think I need a lot more rest from the potions than I thought, because these potions can definitely kill you. I feel very weak. My body lets loose completely. I feel that he is very afraid for me. If life wanted me to die, I wouldn't have got my sharp teeth five years ago. I know I won't die because I haven't had enough of the potion to do it. The amount that would kill me would be 8 sips in half a day. Soviet thinks about what to do. "T-Take me to my r-room, I have something a-against it.", I stutter. I'm lying to him again.

"Are you sure?" He asks me worried. I nod in response. My strength is slowly coming back as Soviet runs inside and goes to my room. He sets me down on the bed. I reach for my bedside table and pull out the strong transformation potion. After taking a sip, I put the potion back and when I notice my wings are gone, I cover myself up again. "I'll stay here if you don't mind.", says Soviet Union and sits down on the bed. I say weakly: "D-Do what you want my e-emperor." I snuggle up in the blanket and close my eyes. I have to sleep so I don't have to stand the pain anymore.

It takes a while, but somehow I fell asleep. I woke up to the light in the room and felt warmth around me. I snuggle up to the heat

source. I feel breaths behind me and when I turn around, Soviet Union is behind me and puts his arm around me. What should I do now? Should I wake him up, continue enjoying this, or go away so he doesn't know about it. I decide to sneak away. It feels so good, but it's a bad idea to stay here. Whether he still loves me or not, I can't tell him yet, I'm just not ready yet. I free myself from his grip and leave the room. I go to the library because the books are on the way there.

I take my books and am about to go outside when Afghanistan grabs my arm and pulls me so that she kisses me on the lips. It goes too far, but what should I do? After the unwanted kiss, she pulls me closer to her. "I've never seen a beauty like you before~", she says. God is she getting on my nerves! I am the opposite of beautiful, whether as a Countryhuman or as a human. She takes the books away from me and pushes me against the wall again. Can she just leave me alone? I don't like that at all! She licks my neck and runs her hands over my body. That is incredibly uncomfortable! I can't stand this!

"Afghanistan, can you stop? I don't like that at all!", I make it clear to her, because she is going more than just too far. She puts a finger on my lips and says: "You won't be so uncomfortable any more~" I hate it when she talks like that. When she rubs her hand between my legs, I've had more than enough of it. I push her away from me and make myself big. Filled with anger, I make it clear to her: "I don't care if you belong to the royal family or not, but that's my body! The only one I belong to is myself and I can't stand it when you touch me! I want you to stop coming too close to me and leave me alone!"

The guards run towards me, while Afghanistan is still speechless and a little scared. I walk away from her, but the guards grab my arms. Afghanistan says something else to the guards, but I no longer listen. I don't want to hear her anymore. I don't care what she says to the guards because I feel better since I gave her my opinion. The guards are taking me away. We're going to the part of the castle where Soviet told me yesterday not to go there. I am taken there and see that everything is quite dark in that part of the building. Some doors can be seen. What is this? Hopefully these aren't cells.

I'm thrown in one of the rooms. It's cells! Panic and fear immediately flow through me again, while memories of the last time I was in a cell shoot through me again. My panic just keeps getting worse. I knock on the door, but nothing brings anything. I don't even have a potion or anything else with me. I shouldn't have yelled at her! I shouldn't have defended myself! What will they do with me now? Starve me? Hang me? Or even burn?! I'm so scared that I yell until my throat hurts so much I can't say another word. I squeeze myself into a corner and cry with fear. Why am I so stupid?!

Chapter 16

I feel so powerless from the fear, panic, memories and headaches that just don't stop. I lie in a corner and bite my hand over and over to distract myself from my other pains. Why is it so cold here or am I imagining it? Nobody will come and help me! How much time has passed I don't know. It seems like forever to me. I hear the door opening or am I just imagining it? I'm probably imagining it again. Suddenly I feel something wrap around me. Is it my imagination?

I feel a hand on my shoulder and flinch at the touch. I immediately look up and see Soviet putting a blanket over me. I hug his arm because I'm scared that he will leave me here and he will make me feel a little more secure. With one hand he strokes my back and calmly says to me: "I came to get you out of here." It calms me down a lot, but I'm still not ready to let go of him. "I-I shouldn't have r-reacted like that! I-I'm so so s-sorry!", I apologize, stuttering as tears run down my face again. "Nick, you don't have to apologize for anything.", he says, "You did exactly the right thing."

"W-why am I h-here then?", I ask. Soviet tells me: "She doesn't like it when someone defies her ideas." I slowly calmed down more. "I want to get out of here.", I sob. He slowly gets up and takes my hands to get me back on my feet. Then I put the blanket around myself a little better because it makes me feel more protected. Soviet puts one of its wings around me so that I feel a little better. His wings are almost exactly the same color as his eyes, but unlike his eyes, his wings don't glitter, they shine.

Slowly he starts to go and I try as best I can to keep up with him. He goes extra slower for me. I keep my eyes on the ground because I don't want to see anyone right now. We walk slowly through the corridors and out of the building. We sit on a bench. I don't want to leave Soviet. After a while, Soviet Union asks me: "Have you ever been in a cell?" I answer him: "Yes, I didn't see any food or face there for a week. I was given a little water on the third day. After that one week they wanted to kill me. The worst part was that I

didn't even do anything."

I don't want to tell him more. "Then it's no wonder that you reacted like that.", says Soviet, "That must have been really bad for you." I nod and hug his arm. I am so happy that he is with me. I really think he was the one from the dream the other day. He's the one who wants to save me. I want to say thank you for everything and never let go of him, but I can't yet. I've slowly calmed down so that I slowly let go of his arm and I don't cry anymore. "Thank you!", I thank him. He says with a smile: "No problem! I can see that you can really use rest now, I will make sure that you will have your peace today and will not work again until tomorrow."

"You don't have to do that for me!", I say. He wants to postpone painting the room especially for me? That's really nice of him! "Yes! You can hardly work like that!", says Soviet Union. "Thank you very much, emperor Soviet!", I thanked him. "No big deal!", He says. I just hug him without really thinking about it. I snuggle up to him and he puts his arms around me. Its warmth feels even more soothing to me. When I notice who I'm hugging and I let go of him. I shouldn't hug him! Why did i hug him? I kind of feel like hugging him. "I-I'm sorry!", I quickly apologize.

"Everything's fine!" He says and strokes my shoulder. I shouldn't be staying here any longer. I tell him: "I'm sure you still have a lot to do, I'll go back to my room and read the books." I'll go away quickly. I can't stay around him or he'll find out who I am. Maybe he's even figured it out. I have to go and he can't stop me. I grab the two books that Afghanistan took from me and go to my room, where I close the door, lock it and lie down. I'll drink the potion and I'm back to normal. I put the books on my bedside table.

I can still smell the wonderful smell of Soviet on my bed. The feelings of happiness flow through my body again. After a while, I get a headache again. That stupid headache! Some time later I start reading the love story, but after two chapters of it I have to think of Soviet again and there I give up reading the book at that moment and imagine situations and scenarios with him that I replay a little. How can I have such a big imagination? At some point I get a little tired and go to sleep for a short time.

When I wake up again I read a few chapters, take the potion that makes me a human and put something on again so I can get an instrument. I'll get a guitar and go back to my room. I play a few well-known and made up songs that I also sing to. I'm busy with singing, reading, thinking and drawing all day long so that my body can recover from the strong potion. I only drink the strong transformation potion for dinner. The rest of the day I avoided Afghanistan and Soviet as good as I could. I fall asleep a little earlier again. I'm already waking up drenched in sweat, these stupid nightmares always come when I sleep late, except yesterday with Soviet.

Chapter 17

I go back from breakfast when Afghanistan goes behind me. I've had enough of her! I go a little faster while she staying at the same speed. I arrive at my room and look at her. She looks down a little ashamed. What does she want again now? "I'm sorry about yesterday. I was really terrible.", she apologizes to me when she stands in front of me, "Can you please forgive me?" She looks up to me. Yesterday wasn't good of her, but she seems to regret it. "I forgive you.", I said her and smile a little. She smiles a little too. I open my room door and tell her: "See you later!" I don't know what else to do.

"See you then!", Afghanistan says back and walks away from the door. I go in quickly. I drink the honey-yellow liquid again. Why do these potions mostly taste like water with a very light fruit or vegetable taste? The potions do not really smell either, unless they are poisonous or have a big effect, such as a healing potion. Poisonous or noxious potions often smell like rotten eggs, but some of these types of potions are incredibly sweet. Often it is also said, the sweeter, the more toxic, but there is the immune system-strengthening potion, which also tastes really sweet. Why are there so many different potions?

Some are just for Countryhumans or Statehumans or humans. The potions have little or no effect on animals and plants. In the end, Countryhumans and Statehumans are like humans, except that we have a slightly different head shape, have more colors, don't have that much hair, and can get certain skills. This is one of the reasons why many say that Countryhumans and Statehumans are people who would have consumed too many potions with big strength. In all honesty, I tend to believe that Countryhumans, Statehumans and humans are different species with the same origins that are just so similar. And since there are only a few Countryhumans and Statehumans, I think that's why they mixed up with humans.

Who can find out what happened back then? Who can say what

shape this world has? Many say flat, but then the different times wouldn't make sense. My feeling also says that the world is not round because there is no curvature if you look closely. Maybe the world looks like a cone or a hemisphere. Maybe one day we'll find out if people are more honest. I want to read a little more from the love story. I don't know why, but I really like the story. I've already done 5 of roughly 25 chapters. I forgot the number of chapters again! I think, but it's around 25 or 30. Unfortunately, I'm not so sure anymore.

I read the story a little further and at some point I see that I have to go upstairs. I put the book aside and drink the orange-red potion before I pack some of it in my jacket and put on another painter's smock so that I won't be too covered in color while painting the wall. I go out of my room and up one floor. Guards are there and I wait for Soviet Union to come and get me. Shortly afterwards he comes to me and accompanies me inside. The two children rush to me and tell me what they want on the wall. From all sorts of animals to some kind of artifact, they want anything.

"Nick, you take care of the wishes of both of them and the ones on this list.", Soviet Union tells me and gives me a list with at least 16 different writings on it. "The rest of the children wrote down their wishes there because this will be their new room. In less than a week, I'll travel to them and bring them here." Does he have more children? I ask: "Do you have more children?" "Well, they're not all my children. They are Afghanistan's children." he replies. Somehow I already thought so. We go into the not small room. I'm sure the children have a lot of space here.

"I hope two rooms are enough.", I hear Soviet whisper. Wait a minute! Did he just say something about two rooms? I must have misheard. "I want a lot of green!", Ukraine demands. Russia complains: "No, we need more blue and red!" "You can have as many colors as you want on the wall.", I giggle, "If you want you can also help me so that you like it better." Both are pleased about my offer, Soviet also seems to like my offer, but I can also see that he is a little worried. He probably doesn't trust me that much, but I'll make sure that he doesn't have to worry about his two children. I will definitely have a good time with his two children.

"If the two of them want to help you, then gladly.", says Soviet Union. Both were very pleased about it. They put on clothes that can be colored and get a few more brushes. The paint buckets are already in the room. We paint on it for half the day and teach the children a lot. They often take breaks while I work through. I'm getting to know the two of them even better. My headache almost gave me a big problem, but luckily it wasn't that long. Soviet is really excited with the result and wants us to paint the rest of the walls in the next few days. So it repeats itself for a few more days.

I agreed with Soviet that as long as I had a headache, I would have a break every other day. I am now also partly babysitter for these two angels. I even heard the joke from Soviet Union that I would now look after the two children even more than Afghanistan would have ever done in all the years. Soviet Union trusts me more and more and we meet more and more often. My feelings still go completely crazy when he's around and he's allowed me to hug him. I am also no longer supposed to call him emperor, but simply Soviet Union or Soviet. The day after tomorrow Soviet and Afghanistan will go away for a week and when all of the rest of the children have arrived there will be a ball.

Chapter 18

I'm still in bed thinking about the past few days. I get up and go to breakfast. I should be the first to be there. I take the potion and go downstairs. When I got to the front of the room, I peeked in and saw someone at Soviets' seat. The morning meal is usually already on the table, it is only brought here at lunchtime and in the evening when everyone is sitting. The one at Soviet's seat has a green poison or drink and pours it into the soup. There aren't many green potions, most are red or yellow. I only know two green potions, one is very good against tick bites and mosquito bites and the other attacks the stomach relatively quickly and very painfully, the victims often bleed to death because it decomposes the stomach wall for the most part.

Should I let Soviet know? What if he thinks I did it and lie to him? What if the potion isn't bad and maybe just enhances the taste since it is not a potion with big powers? What should I do? I need proof of who made it and whether the potion is dangerous or not. "Are you going in or not?", asks someone behind me. "You can go in first.", I say and open the door for him before I go in after him. What should I do?! Soviet Union could be in danger while I sit here. The two children sit down next to me and greet me while their father is sitting down.

He seems to be having a very relaxing morning because he looks so calm and relaxed. Does it just seem like it to me or does he always smile when I see him? Afghanistan sits down next to him and plays with her forks, bored. I look at the guy from before, he seems to be grinning maliciously. That doesn't bode well! I look back to Soviet, who takes bread and takes a bite of it before he reaches for the spoon. I get up and come to him. He looks at me and leans back a little more. His hands stay in the position. Now I'm kind of uncomfortable. He turns to me interested. What should I do? What should I tell him?

I feel like everyone at the table is staring at me. I try to find words,

but as soon as I have find some words I forget them again because of my nervousness. I have a lot of stage fright, which is why this situation is so difficult for me. I feel myself shaking and the situation becomes more and more uncomfortable. "Nick what's wrong?", Soviet asks me. I open my mouth, but I still can't get a word out. At some point I tell him quietly and stutteringly: "I-I have se-seen how so-somebody has mi-mixed a green l-liquid in your f-food and I-I am afraid that it c-could be d-dangerous."

"If it is really dangerous, as you say, you too can still be the person in charge who just wants to put someone in a bad light! If you are really not sure whether it is dangerous or not and it wasn't you, you can try the soup!", shouts the one who poured the stuff in. Should i really do this? I look at Soviet one more time. He is unsure. I'll try the soup, because only then will Soviet be safe. This is probably the second time that I'm so close to death when the stuff is really dangerous, but I'd rather die than the one I love. I reach out my hand a little to take a spoon.

Soviet puts his spoon in my hand. Everyone except Soviet and his family has silver cutlery. He gave me a golden spoon. I pull the plate closer to me and dip the golden spoon into it. I feel like I am being watched from all sides. I blow the soup a little because it's too hot and take another deep breath before hesitantly opening my mouth. I try to taste the soup in my mouth to see if it's really dangerous. Tastes normal. Suddenly I taste it! I tasted a hint of cherry which is an incredibly bad sign for me. As suspected, it is the potion that decomposes the stomach wall. I have to get out very quickly because, firstly, I have to get the stuff out of myself, because I've already swallowed a lot and secondly, I don't want to suffer so much in front of people and especially the children.

I try to do it slowly and calmly because I don't want panic. I put the spoon on the table and try to get out quickly. Everyone is still staring at me. I'm slowly feeling the burning in my stomach. As soon as I'm out of the room, my stomach contracts, because it knows that this stuff has to get out. I spit everything out of my mouth and already know that I won't get any further. I get on my knees and hear the door open behind me. The pain keeps getting worse and I vomit. I can see the blood. My stomach continues to

fight, but I also see more and more blood on the floor in front of me, until I faint.

This is probably my end, the main thing is that Soviet is fine. I will probably not be able to keep my promise.

"Wake up!", I hear a child calling, "Please wake up!" The voice sounds familiar to me. Is that Russia? "Please wake up Nick!", calls the little one. I feel a warm blanket over me and someone little is lying on my right. Is that Russia? My stomach and head hurt. What happened? Where am I? I slowly open my eyes. I am laying in my bed. I look over at the one hugging me from the right. It really is Russia. The little guy is scared for me, but what happened again? I put my right arm around Russia and he looks up at me with wide eyes before hugging me tighter and snuggling up to me.

Chapter 19

Russia snuggles up to me a little longer and keeps whispering: "You saved papa!" I'm slowly remembering everything. I ate a spoonful of poisoned soup to save Soviet. I hear the door and see Ukraine looking in and I smile at him a little to show him that I'm fine. Ukraine disappears from the room again, but leaves the door open. I hear him calling his father. I stroke Russia on the back. After a short while he looks at me with a smile. I smile back and he hugs me again. Shortly afterwards Ukraine and Soviet come into my room. Both look happy and come to me. Ukraine hugs me and Soviet wraps a wing around us.

"Thank you very much Nick!", thanks Soviet. After a short time the children let go of me and their father says to them: "Can you both go upstairs please, I would like to talk to Nick alone." Is something going on? Would he like to thank me more? Why is he sending his children away? When the children go out, he hugs me. I hug him back and lightly stroke his back. He cuddles up to me and I enjoy the moment. We hug for a while before he lets go of me and asks: "How are you?" A lot better because you are with me. "Much better!", I answer him. "We found whoever wanted to kill me and I looked at the poison a little.

It is a potion that only harms Countryhumans.", he informs me. Oh no! I forgot that there are several variants of the potion and that is the one that only harms Countryhumans because it tasted like cherry and not lemon. I had to save him. "Nick, what's your real name?", asks Soviet, but still calm. "I... I... I don't want to say it.", I tell him. Soviet asks me: "Which family are you from?" I have no family anymore and I have already told you that. "I haven't had a family for a few years.", I answer him. "Why are you really here?", he asks me. I admit, "I want to make sure that you are okay, happy and safe because you are a really nice guy and I like you... as a friend."

I lied at the end, I love you and want to be more than just a friend

to you again, but I don't even know if I deserve you anymore. I love you Soviet, but it's not the right time and place yet to tell you and show you who I really am. "When will I get more answers from you?", He asks me. I answer him: "In not even a moon." "Promise me!", he wants. "I promised you once before.", I mumble without noticing. He asks confused: "What did you just mumble? I've heard something about 'promised before'."

"Um... I forgot, but I promise I will tell you who I am.", I promise him. He hugs me and whispers: "I have so many questions." "And I will give you an answer to every question, I promise you.", I promise. "Thank you very much!", he whispers. Won't he send me away? "Don't I have to leave because I lied to you?", I ask him. He lets go of me and looks at me quite surprised. "How did you come up with something like that? You saved my life and you are so good with my children. I trust you enough not to throw you out. You can stay here as long as you want.", reassured me.

I hug him and snuggle up to his chest. Fortunately, I can stay with him. "Thanks!", I whisper. He puts his arms around me and gently presses me closer. I would love to kiss him, but I can't yet or maybe never again if he doesn't like me for who I am now. The day and the following went by in a flash, even if I was just lying in bed and reading. I'm supposed to take care of the two children while Soviet and Afghanistan go to Afghanistan's palace. I also have two pictures to make that week. Soviet Union also taught me a headache potion as he now partially knows something about my secrets.

The two angels wake me up early by jumping on me. Fortunately, the two are not that heavy. I wake up quickly, but because I'm not a morning person, I just turn around. Can't the two of them let me sleep? "Let me sleep!", I mumble sleepily. I just put my wing over my face. The two stop immediately. I can finally go back to sleep. Wait a minute, how did they get into my room? I turn around and look at them sleepily. They look very fascinated by something. I yawn and they back off a little. What do the two of them have? "Russia, Ukraine what's going on?

Why are you looking at me so strangely?" Ukraine and Russia come closer to me. Russia asks me: "Is that you Nick?" What is the unnecessary question? "Yes, it's me Nick. The artist of the castle and

the one who is supposed to take care of you for a week.", I answer confused. I feel like a feather is being pulled. "Ouch!", I shout and look at Ukraine, he has a black and white feather in his hands holds. Wait a minute, I feel for my wings and look at my red hands before I feel my sharp teeth with my tongue. I'm me and no longer in human form. What should I tell the kids? "Please don't tell anyone about that I'm a Countryhuman.", I beg them.

"I promise!", promises Russia. Ukraine wants: "If I get to keep the father, I won't say anything either." "Of course you can keep the father.", I tell him. "Russia! Ukraine!", I hear from outside. I need the potion quickly! I drink the potion and a few seconds later transform into a human. The two children look at me in fascination while their father walks into the room. "Good morning Nick! You two shouldn't wake Nick up.", he says before he sees the father in Ukraines little hands, "Where did you get the beautiful feather from?" Ukraine lies: "The feather has flown in through the window."

Really good lie because yesterday I forgot the window too. I can feel the itchy spots now. "You don't have to get up yet, Nick you can go back to sleep.", says Soviet. He would like that! I'm not going to spend another second in a room with these blood-sucking mosquitos. "I'll change immediately. I already have too many bites, I'll sleep somewhere else later.", I say before I put on my shirt and Soviet leaves my room with his children, giggling slightly. I quickly get dressed and leave my room. Soviet takes a good look at my feather. I hope he doesn't find out yet.

Chapter 20

I follow them to the carriage that is in front of the castle. Soviet speaks with Ukraine and then stows my black and white feather in his jacket pocket. What is he going to do with it? I stand behind the children who are hugging their father. Then Soviet Union came to me and hugged me. Then he smiles lovingly at me for a moment and goes to the carriage. If my heart continues to beat this fast, I will definitely faint from it. We wave after them before I go back into the castle with the children, but first I look back. I hope nothing will happen to him, because unfortunately I cannot follow him.

It is my job to take care of the children and I will do my best in that. I go upstairs with the kids and go into the living room with them. But there I see someone and pull the children a little closer to me to protect them. I also have a reconversion potion in my pocket in case he attack us. This compartment is only for the royal family and guests specifically invited by them. The person gets up and slowly comes closer to the light. It's Russian Empire, Soviet father! What is he doing here? The children hold my hand a little tighter. "W-what a-are you doing he-here?", I ask him.

He stops and says: "I could ask you the same thing. You are not a member of the royal family." "Soviet Union has given me the job of looking after his two children while he is not here.", I inform him. Russian Empire sits down and looks over at us. Then he says: "So-so... What's your name?" "My name is Nick sir.", I answer him. He asks me: "Last name!" "I don't know.", I answer him and become more and more self-confident the longer I stand here. He asks: "What do you mean that you don't know?" "I don't have a family and therefore I don't have a last name.", I reply confidently.

Last names are overrated and unnecessary I think. Russian Empire stands up and comes closer to me. The children hide behind me while I don't move. He's standing in front of me and he's at least a head taller than me. "Bring my grandchildren over.", he orders me.

He can absolutely forget that! It is up to them to decide, not him. I look back and from their look I see that the two of them don't want to leave me. I smile at them both slightly to show that I'll take care of them. I turn back to the big Countryhuman in front of me and look again, as before, before I answer: "No!"

He seems surprised, but looks pretty angry at me. He shows his bear-like fangs and makes himself even bigger with its wings. I still stop just as I did before. He says: "You are really outrageously naughty for a human." "And you're pretty snooty for a Countryhuman without a country.", I give it back to him. The Russian Empire is even less pleased about it. "You are not a human! Humans would never dance around any Countryhuman like that", says Russian Empire. I say: "I don't dance and if you want your grandchildren you have to go to your son or fly because I'll do what he says. You have nothing to say to me."

I just turn around and go to the children's room with the children. Russian Empire can't get a word out. I sit down on the floor with the children and break out laughing with them. "You really showed him!", laughs Ukraine. I tell them: "I want you to be happy." The two of them hug me. I hold them close to me. "Nick are you really a Countryhuman?", I am asked by Russia. Then I let go of them and lock the door before I go back to them and drink my potion. "Is that your answer?", I ask him.

"If you are a Countryhuman like us, you probably have a different name than Nick.", says Russia. "Yes, I have! I am Third Reich, but you can also just call me Reich.", I introduce myself to them. "Great name, but why 'Third Reich'?", Ukraine asks me. I'm trying to explain: "It's a family thing. My 'father' is called Second Reich, so I'm 'the Third'." Ukraine thought for a moment before he asked me: "Do you have an empire too, like papa?" "N-No... My father kicked me out of the family, so I no longer belong to the royal family and cannot be a throne successor.", I say.

The two look very sad about it. "So you don't have a family anymore?", Russia asks me. I nod. Ukraine and Russia come to me and hug my legs. I wrap my wings around the two of them before I crouch and hug them. "We are your family then," says Russia. This is so cute! I thank them: "Really, really nice of you!" We hug for a

while before Russia asks me: "Why are you actually in the castle?" Shall I tell them? They deserve an answer. "I'm in love with your father. We were together 7 years ago and it was the best time of my life and I just want to be with him, whether he still loves me or not.", I reply to Russia.

"Why don't you just tell dad?", I am asked by Ukraine. I answer: "I am afraid that he no longer loves me and I am afraid that he might not like me because I could not bring myself to come back to him. I also thought that he has long since forgotten me or that I would ruin his life. I just want your father to be happy." "Dad is not happy because he misses you.", said Ukraine. Wait... What? "Really?", I ask. He tells me: "Yes, he kept talking about you, but Mom kept yelling at Dad that you were dead and that he should forget you, but he never did.

He talked less and less to her about you because she doesn't like it when he talks about you. He raves about you and always says that if he finds you he'll get divorce immediately and then marry you. He always says that he wishes to have you in his arms again and that he wants to kiss you from head to toe. He loves you and has been looking for you for ages." He has not forgotten me and still loves me! He wants to marry me! He is looking for me! Did I hear you right? "Papa is also afraid that you have forgotten him. He'd rather spend every second looking for you, but unfortunately he can't leave.", Russia tells me.

Chapter 21

Did i hear right? I can not believe it. He has not forgotten me and loves me to this day. I feel tears of joy in my eyes. I am so incredibly happy. The kids seem to have noticed as they come up to me and hug me. "He still loves me.", I whispered overjoyed. "Yes, he still loves you.", Ukraine confirms. I have a big smile on my face as tears run down my face. I no longer have a grip on myself and let everything out. I am so overjoyed! Soviet still loves me! I can really stay with him forever. Maybe I even have a family that loves me for who I am.

I can stay with Soviet and his wonderful children forever! I finally have a home! I cannot say or describe how incredibly happy I am! So there are really happy endings. I always thought that a happy ending was a pure invention, but I guess I'm wrong. There will be a happy ending for everything I've endured! Still, I shouldn't be too hasty. Besides, why 'end'? What just got into my head? The end is death right? And what if it doesn't turn out to be happy after all and I'm just thinking that everything will be fine?

What if Soviet loves me, but believes in this fairy tale with the half-white wings? If he really sees my wings as a threat and wants me away because of it, I will still do everything to make him feel safe, even if it means that I have to die for it. I won't flee or hide anymore, he can do whatever he wants with me, because he's the only reason I'm still alive. I never gave up hope that he still loves me and now I know that he still loves me. For me, the time as his artist is the best after so many years. If he is really scared of me, I'll go to the grave with these last fond memories.

Why am I thinking so negatively again? He loves me and I know he doesn't like fairy tales. He won't hurt me. I will be with him forever and love him forever. I will look after his children with him. I'll never be one feet from him again. The two children slowly let go of me. Russia then asks me: "Do we want to play something future mom?" What did Russia just call me? I try to make it clear to him:

"Russia, I am not your future mother. I am..." I don't know myself! If Soviet is the father who is divorcing Afghanistan, the mother of the two, what am I then?

I can't actually be a father either, since it's already Soviet Union, can I? I'm confused. Am I a mother after all, if Soviet is already the father? I'll just talk to him about it because it's just too complicated for me. "Can we call you that for the week?", asks Russia. I give him the answer: "For me, yes, but not if anyone else could be around." They both nod and then I ask them: "What do we want to play?" The two run to a wooden box and take out some wooden figures. Then I come to them and with them I convert half their room into a whole world.

There is a village and a large forest around it. I play a dog and the two play two brothers. In our stories, Russia first comes up with some ideas and then lets Ukraine continue. They work really well together. I also play a dragon in the story who is feared because he could harm others and then accepted his fate and played the villain until he told the brothers that and he became their friend. We make up a lot of stories, it's just wonderful to see how many creative ideas the two of them have for their stories and to solve problems.

I also have to say that I built in some of my problems so they might understand me a little better. After playing we go to lunch and I am so cheeky and lie down in the bed of Soviet and Afghanistan. The two of them are not there anyway and I have to get used to this bed anyway because I might sleep here for a lot longer than just a week. I haven't seen Russian Empire either. After I woke up I also found two peacefully sleeping children next to me. I get up and quickly write them on a piece of paper that I'm outside drawing.

I take everything I need from my room and catch some mosquitos with a glass and release them outside. I'm drawing a weeping willow this time. Weeping willows are my favorite trees. The way they hang their branches looks so beautiful. So that the picture looks even more beautiful, I also draw the pond in the background, which is not far away. The picture turned out really well and I'm bringing it inside. Then I get the guitar from the music room to play a little more. When I get back upstairs, the children are just making a cave out of pillows. I'll help them and we'll all go in there.

They get their cuddly toys before I play something for them. The two are very happy about it. When I finish the first song, they immediately want another, then another and another. You can't get enough of it. At some point I'm so exhausted that I have to take the kids for a walk outside because my legs have fallen asleep several times. I then go to dinner with them before I practice reading with them. I also teach them some math because they really want to know more about it. We spent a nice day together. I also snuck away that night because the children and I want to know how their father is doing.

He is fine and sleeps in a bed with at least ten children. I don't see Afghanistan. I count the children and find that there are 16 children. 16 children?! How did Afghanistan manage that? I'm just speechless. I will look after a total of 18 children together with Soviet. I can not believe it. 7 years ago I said that I didn't want to have children and maybe soon I will have to look after 18. That's impossible! Or not? I don't know. I figured it was going to be 7 or so and then it turns out it's more than double that. I'm looking forward to getting to know everyone.

Chapter 22

A week has passed and I've taken good care of the kids and I'm on the third picture right now. I know I should only do two, but I think a third would be nice too. This time I'm trying to draw a blackbird in a tree. Is quite difficult because they are constantly moving and flying away. The sun is shining and it is pleasantly warm. I stand in the shade while I draw the picture. The children are playing in the pond, which is not far from here. I hear their laughter clearly. I go to them and see that they are hosing each other off with water. It's so nice to see them so happy.

I go back to the picture, but I feel that I need something other than drawing. I want to sing. I just feel like I have to let it all out. Fortunately, I got the guitar for it beforehand. It is leaning against a tree, a few meters from me. I climb the tree because I don't like sitting on the grass because of the ants. I sit on a branch leaning against the tree trunk. I'm cross-legged with the guitar on my lap. I also tune in the guitar before I start playing:

"I sing to you every night

And think of you every day

I you are close to me

And yet you are so far away

I want to come to you,

But I'm afraid

That you don't see me the way you used to

My heart says yes

But my head no

What should I do,

Nothing I do seems right

I don't want to be afraid anymore

And just love you

I want you and you me too

But what will you do when you see me

I need you and I have to go to you

But I'm afraid that you will hurt me

I need you,

No matter what it may cost me

I need you

Whenever you are with me

my heart starts beating faster

I am safe and protected with you

Nobody can do anything to me

I try to meet every condition

To be with you,

No matter how exhausting it is

My heart says yes

But my head no

What should I do,

Nothing I do seems right

I don't want to be afraid anymore

And just love you

I want you and you me too

But what will you do when you see me

I need you and I have to go to you

But I'm afraid that you will hurt me

I need you,

No matter what it may cost me

I need you

I don't come to you with fear

Its been holding me back for a long time

But one day it will be enough

I have to go back to you

I want you and you me too

But what will you do when you see me

I need you and I have to go to you

But I'm afraid that you will hurt me

I need you,

No matter what it may cost me

I need you

I-need-you"

I suddenly hear applause next to me. I get scared and fall from the tree. I can't hold on to anything and close my eyes. This will hurt! I land gently and also not on earth. What happened? I open my eyes and see Soviet's face in front of me. "Are you all right?", Soviet Union asks me, "I didn't mean to scare you." "I'm fine, don't worry.", I reply. Did he hear me sing? Soviet says: "You were great! I didn't know that you could sing that well." He finds it good? I'm getting warmer again. "Thank you!", I thank him, because I don't know what else to say.

Soviet has that beautiful smile again and everything tingles inside me. I feel myself melting away from that smile. How does he do it? I still ask myself that until today. He slowly sets me down on the floor again and picks up the guitar. He takes a good look at the guitar before handing it back to me. "You were indescribable.", he flatters me before going to his children. I still stand there without saying a word or moving. I think a little more before the laughter brings me out. I go and see that the is in the pond too. He has put his clothes around a branch.

I want to jump into the pond too, but I'm not quite sure. I'd rather not go in, maybe I could disturb them because they haven't seen each other in a week. I go back to my picture. "Nick!", I hear Soviet call and turn to him. I ask him: "What is?" "Don't you want to come in too?", he asks me. What can I say? I want to, but something inside of me says no. I will take part. "Gladly!", I shout before I put everything of except my underpants and put everything on the nearest branch before I slowly go in, as the water seems to me to be quite cold. "The water is so cold.", I say when I feel how cold it is.

Soviet giggles through it and swims to me. "I'll give you a tip. Get your whole body into the water quickly and start swimming immediately, then you will get warm.", he claims. I am very

insecure. Should I do it? I just try. I go into the water with my whole body except for my head. "Hush!", comes from me. It's freezing, how can the three of them stand it? I feel someone take my hands carefully. Soviet pulls me with him, but when I feel no ground beneath me, I quickly pull my arms back and swim until I feel safe enough again. This is so embarrassing!

I'm always afraid that when the ground is gone, something will drag me down. I will probably never get rid of this stupid fear! Someone puts his hand on my shoulder. Soviet, who is in front of me, asks me: "Are you all right?" "Y-yes, when I have no more ground under my feet, I just get a little scared.", I answer. "You know, I know someone with the same problem.", he says, "I assure you that there is nothing in this pond except of small fish, but you are not afraid of them, are you?" I shake my head I'm not afraid of fish.

"Take my hand and I'll show you that you are scared for no reason.", Soviet assures me. Reluctantly, I take his hand, whereupon he carefully pulls me towards him. "Hold your breath and open your eyes underwater.", He tells me before he goes underwater. I take a deep breath and dive down to him. I try to find my way with my hands, but it doesn't work at all. I slowly open my eyes even if they don't like it. I see Soviet sitting at the bottom of the pond, smiling up at me. He extends his hand and I swim down to him. He takes me by my wrists and pulls me to him.

Chapter 23

I hold onto his arm when I'm close enough to him. He lets go of me with one arm and then points in one direction. I look and see a school of small fish just a few meters away from us. I count the fish and find that there are 23 fish. I look around, but I can't see anything dangerous. I also run one hand over the sand. As he said, there is no danger here. I look at him, but try to look away again quickly, knowing well that if I look too long I will not be able to take my eyes off his body. I'm running out of air too, so I'm swimming back up.

Soviet won't let go of me, but gets up and pushes himself off the ground to the surface and pulls me along. Thanks to him, I can get to the surface faster and take a deep breath. After I had enough air again, Soviet asks me: "And was something dangerous down there?" I shake my head at that. "No, it was really nice down there.", I add. I don't know why, but my head wants to get away from Soviet again. I just don't understand why and I can't say whether I want to keep my distance from him or not. My head is fighting my heart again. I want to stay with Soviet and the children.

Why does my head resist it so much? Is my head afraid? It feels like fear. I don't want to be afraid, I just want to be close to Soviet. I am torn from my thoughts when Soviet puts a hand on my shoulder. I flinch. "Are you okay?", he asks me. "Y-yes, just lost in my thoughts again.", I answer him. We were in the water for a while until I step out of the water and realize that I don't have a towel or anything close by. The water is too cold for me to go in again. I take my clothes and hang them somewhere else before I start drawing again. I'm guaranteed to get dry while drawing.

A few minutes later someone throws something against my back. When I look at the floor, I see a towel there. A few meters from me is Soviet Union with a towel around his shoulder. I pick up the towel and wrap it around my arms and chest before looking back at Soviet, who is smiling at me. Shortly afterwards he leaves again and

I take a look at his beautiful body. He still doesn't have a single scar and he looks more muscular than I remember. I look like the complete opposite of him. I don't have such muscles or even none at all. I'm a little fat too.

Why is he always so much better than me at everything? He disappears behind the bushes and trees. I dedicate myself to my picture again. The children storm past me too and say: "Mom, we'll show dad what you've taught us!" "Have fun!", I call after them. Loneliness is spreading in me again. So that it disappears, I continue drawing. Does Soviet know that I made up the song? Does he know it's about me and him? Did he find out who I am yet? After I'm done with the picture, I'll go back in with all the materials and the guitar after I'm dressed again. I give the three pictures to Soviet and get to know the other children.

The remaining children are named Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Kazakhstan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan. I am also praised several times by Soviet. Then he gives me a suit for the ball tonight. I don't quite understand why tonight, I ask myself as I lie in my room. Maybe because Soviet and I don't have time tomorrow evening. Most likely because of that. How am I supposed to approach him tomorrow? Should i wait for him? No, that happens a little too quickly for me and I also want to have a little more control over the situation. I'll hide and wait for him to arrive. But what should I do then?

Should I make myself invisible and come from behind? Maybe I'll scare him and I want to prevent that. He should not be frightened and neither should he be afraid. Should I approach him from the side as Nick and then drink my potion? No, that doesn't seem right to me either. Maybe from the front and I'll be invisible first and then drink the potion. I can try. I get up, make myself invisible and fly out of my room. I fly towards the balcony and see Soviet with his children there. He's telling them something. I fly closer and listen. "... Feather is not a bird's feather but a Countryhumans feather, I figured it out through the size.

Whoever owns this feather must have even bigger wings than me. I also looked at the feather more carefully and whoever owns the feather can probably make himself invisible. And because it's a

black feather with white spots, it belongs to the German royal family. Either it's one of Reich's family members I've never heard of or Reich is alive! He could be around somewhere and we wouldn't even notice. I also strongly suspect that he is also in the castle and maybe even one of the people who could work here. One in particular looks very familiar to me. Unfortunately, I am not entirely sure.

I also believe that Reich is afraid of something and therefore does not show himself. I also think how strange it sounds that it has something to do with this feather, because until now no known Countryhuman has black and white as the wing color, but I'm not exactly sure about that either", says Soviet Union. "Dad do you think he'll even still love you if he hasn't come back to you?", asks Latvia. "Yes, I think he still loves me. I hope he will confirm it to me tomorrow.", replies Soviet. Ukraine asks: "How are we going to find out that he still loves you?" "By bringing him home tomorrow.", he replies to his son.

I want to show him that I'm listening. I take a loose black feather and stand on the railing before I let the feather fall over Soviet. As it floats down, it becomes visible again. It is really a black feather, as I suspected. Soviet catches it immediately and looks at them before turning around. I quickly jump off the railing and flutter up. "Reich if you can hear me. We'll meet at sunset at the pond. You don't have to be afraid of me. I love you!", he shouts. I flutter closer to him and stroke gently his cheek with my right hand.

He takes my hand gently and kisses it lightly before looking up at me with a smile. "Are you telling the children fairy tales again?", asks Afghanistan, who comes up to him. "I'm not telling fairy tales. I'm just telling them that you can pack up and go home soon.", Soviet replies. I land on the railing and put my other hand on his cheek before lightly kissing his cheek. "Why go home? I only go back to my palace when you've fallen in love with someone.", remembers Afghanistan. "I have someone I love with all my heart.", he replies while looking at me in love.

Afghanistan says: "Don't you say it's this guy who was killed 5 years ago." I see shock in Soviet's eyes before he turns his head to her and repeats: "Killed?!" Doesn't he know? Wasn't he told what they did or

wanted to do to me? "Yes, he was burned.", she replies. Soviet can't get a word out and I slowly pull my hands away again. He can't let go of my hand, which I can understand well. He looks at me, but let go of me, even if it is difficult for him. Then he turns his head to Afghanistan and asks: "Why?" "I'll tell you that when you get home tomorrow. After he didn't show up.", she says before going back inside.

Soviet looks back at me once more and feels the railing with his hands. When he feels my hands on it, he strokes them gently. "I know that you are there and I'm sure you are scared, but no matter what, I will love you forever my Reich. Please let me see you again.", he whispers as a tear runs down his face. I put my lips on his cheek again, stopping his tear. He smiles at me. I slowly take my hands away and flutter away. I look back and see that he burst into tears, but I don't know what tears they are. His children try to cheer him up. Are Soviets tears, tears of joy or sadness?

Chapter 24

I'm back in my room. Why does everything have to be so difficult? I shouldn't have paid a visit to Soviet. I made him cry and I can't even tell if it's good or bad. Tears run down my face because Soviet infected me. I can't see him cry without doing it myself. I wipe away my tears with my arm. Suddenly there a knock on the door, whereupon I drink the potion before I go to the room door. Russia stands before me. Why is he here? Is something bothering him? "Have you really just been to see dad?", the little one asks me. I nod and try again to wipe these tears away. Russia hugs me and I hug him back.

"Papa is so happy that he could feel you.", says Russia. "I'm so happy about it too.", I tell him. An hour goes by and I help set up the hall for the ball or celebration. I'm not quite sure myself what it is as it will be a celebration and a ball at the same time. It will be a celebration for the children and a ball for the adults. There's a band, something to eat, a dance floor, a few tables, chairs and stools and a bar. I don't really like parties and balls because there are always too many people around me. I hope that it will be a quiet and calm evening, because there is a lot of chaos in me because of tomorrow.

I carry three more chairs into the room and see Soviet with two chairs that he puts down. I go back to the room where the rest of the chairs are and this time carry four as they are quite heavy. Soviet tries to pick up three, but it is very difficult for him, so he takes breaks all the time. People can only take one. I'm stronger than Soviet or he's just makes a theater. He's the more muscular of the two of us and yet I'm better at transporting chairs. It is really nice of Soviet Union that he is helping. Normal kings or emperors are too selfish for that and want you to do all the work for them. The oldest children also help a little, but more with decorating.

Soviet sits down after 18 chairs as he is exhausted. I need 23 chairs before I can no longer and have to rest. It only takes him a few minutes before he can again, but it takes me at least 15 minutes or

even more. Because I have to go on, because I want to show the Soviet how hardworking I am, I pick up five chairs, but that is too difficult for me and I have no more hold. My arms hurt and my head hurts again too. I fall forward, but someone grabs me before I fall on the chairs. My body can no longer, I let go and close my eyes. Whoever caught me lifts me up to lie in his arms.

"I'll take care of him.", I hear Soviet. I am being carried away. I am put in a bed. My head hurts like never before! I feel a slight pressure on my forehead. Is someone kissing my forehead? His lips are cold. Someone puts a wet cloth on my forehead. Soviet says: "You'll be better soon Nick." A blanket is placed over me and I slowly open my eyes again, but that hurts even more, which is why I close my eyes again. I hear: "Nick please open your mouth and drink the liquid." I open my mouth a little and feel a cold bottle on my lips. Slowly I feel the liquid flowing into my mouth and swallow it down, even if it is not so delicious.

At some point the bottle will be removed from my lips again. I lick my lips after the last sip as there are some drops running down my chin and bothering me. Someone is wiping the drops off my chin. Then I put my head to one side, because that's a little more comfortable for me. Can this headache please stop. Why did I just forget the headache potion. The cloth on my forehead is turned over. Why does something have to happen to me all the time? I want to finally have some peace and quiet and rest and feel good, but instead every day is a new adventure, especially for the last two weeks. My headaches are slowly getting less, but only slowly.

I slowly open my eyes and look around. Soviet sits next to me and takes the cloth from my forehead. He takes the cloth with him and walks out of the room. It doesn't take long until he's back. He puts the cold cloth back on my forehead. I feel my strength coming back and the pain disappearing. "Thanks.", I whisper to him. He smiles from it, comes closer to me and says to me quietly: "You're welcome." I close my eyes again and take a rest. I want him to stay with me and feel the bed for his hand. After I find his hand, I pull him closer to me and snuggle up to his arm.

It takes a while until I feel almost normal again, I let go of his arm and straighten up a bit. Soviet takes the cloth from my forehead. I

ask him: "What time is it?" "A little after sunset.", he replies to me. The ball! "What about the ball?", I ask. "It has already started, but we haven't missed anything yet.", Soviet Union tells me. "Did you stay with me the whole time?", I ask. "Yes, I did.", he replies, "I wanted to make sure that you feel better soon. We're still friends and friends take care of each other." That's really nice of him. I thank him: "Thank you very much!"

I hug him as a thank you. "How about you get your suit and get ready?", he says. I nod and slowly get up before going downstairs to my room and putting on the black and white suit with silver buttons. The suit looks pretty good on me. I'll take a transformation potion and a reconfiguration potion with me. Before I leave the room, I drink the transformation potion and the headache potion. I walk down the hall and take another good look at my clothes. Then I go on until I see Soviet in his gold suit. He looks amazingly good.

Chapter 25

"You look really good!", I tell him. Soviet smiles and thanks: "Thank you very much, you look really good as well." "Thank you very much!", I thank him. He gives me his right hand and says: "Come on, let's go to the hall." I take his hand and go there with him by my side. His hand is a little softer than I remembered, but still comfortably warm. Somehow it feels so protective. I look up at him. I would like to snuggle up to him. I can't do that yet, but maybe soon. I quickly turn my head forward again and he giggles.

We have arrived at the hall. He opens the door for me and waits until I'm inside. There are a lot of people in the big hall. "Thank you very much!", I thank Soviet. "You're welcome!", comes from him before he goes to his children. I go to the bar and get a glass of water. I sit down at a free table and look at the full hall as best I can from my seat. The water is cold and refreshing as I like it most. Soviet with his golden suit is hard to miss. I watch him laugh and talk to different people. His charisma is so positive. It's wonderful to see him like that. I go to him again after this glass of water.

After I've finished my water I get up, push the chair a little further towards the table and slowly walk over to him. When he sees me he turns to me and asks me: "How about we dance afterwards?" I don't like dancing and I also think that I have already forgotten how to dance. But I could try it for Soviet. "I'm not that good at it, but I want to try it.", I reply. Then I ask, in order to have a little chat with him: "Is everyone from the castle here?" "Almost all of them. Afghanistan and the slightly smaller children are upstairs, in the room that you painted with Russia and Ukraine.", he replies. "Certainly it would be too loud for them here and too much excitement, which I can understand well.", I think.

"Yes, it would be.", he agrees, "Is it too loud for you?" "Well, I imagined it to be a bit louder.", I admit. He says: "If it gets too much for you, you can always go back and rest." Really nice of him. "Thanks, everything is just fine!", I inform him. "May I ask you a

question?" He asks me. What does he want to ask me? I answer him: "Gladly!" "You said that you like me as friends, didn't you?", he asks me. Great! What can I say? I reply: "Yeah, I just like you as friends and I know you're in love with someone, so I'll stick with it too." I hate to lie. But he's in love with me, just as a Countryhuman and not as a human.

"How do you know that?", asks Soviet. I think he means being in love. "You told me a little over a week ago.", I answer him. "That's right, I almost forgot!", laughs Soviet Union. After talking for a while, he takes my hand and pulls me onto the dance floor. I got really bad at it, but Soviet and I can laugh for that, even if people look at us questionably. Even if I'm bad at it, I have a lot of fun. Soviet can really make anything negative positive. I don't know how, but he can. At some point I find the rhythm and can keep up with him while dancing.

While dancing comes Afghanistan. "Soviet Union, it's your turn to take care of the children upstairs!", he promises me: "I'll come back and then we'll dance again. I promise!" "See you then!", I call out to him. He walks slowly and I get another glass of water. I sit down at the table from before and drink my cold water. After a few minutes Afghanistan comes to me with a somewhat little transparent honey-yellow drink and sits down next to me. "Do you know how good the apple spritzer is here?", she asks. "No, I usually only drink water.", I reply.

She offers me: "Give it a try." She pushes her drink to me. I don't want an apple spritzer right now and try to lean against: "No, thank you! Thank you for the offer, but-" "Just one small sip!", she says. "All right, but just a sip.", I give in. I hope it tastes as good as she thinks it is. I take the drink and take a small sip before handing it back to her. Very sweet and also a lot of apple flavor inside. I also taste a hint of something else, but I don't know what it is. I'm sure I'm just imagining it. Tastes really good! "And how does it taste?", she asks me. "Really good, but I'll stick with my water.", I reply to Afghanistan.

"Are the rumors true that you are really a Countryhuman?", she asks me. Why does she want to know? I could actually answer her with 'yes' because she'll find out tomorrow anyway. "Yes, I'm a

Countryhuman.", I whisper to her. She asks me: "What's your real name?" "I'm not saying yet." I tell her. "Impressive teeth!", she says. "Why impressive teeth?", I ask her and lick my teeth to be on the safe side. You are pointy! Oh no! I already feel my wings coming back. I have to get out quickly and take off my suit or I'll hurt either my wings or break my suit.

I get up and try to run out, but someone holds me by the suit so I can't go any further. "Show us all who you really are!", shouts Afghanistan. That witch! I take off my suit and run to the door, but it is locked by two guards. Damn it! I know I won't get through and the rest of the people are standing in a circle around me. My wings find their way out of my clothes and my skin is red again. I look at the people. Everyone takes a few steps away from me and looks at me scared, except for the children, but they cannot get past the adults. What are they gonna do to me?

"I should have guessed it!", says Afghanistan. She looks at me with hatred. I can't quite believe the situation. Am I really back to normal right now and everyone is standing around me as if I were a ghost. Afghanistan orders the guards: "Catch him!" I try to run away, but I get grabbed immediately I can't free my arms and wings. I am very scared. What is she going to do with me? "Will we do with him what King Reich the Second couldn't do.", she says. I hit and pull as much as I can. She wants to kill me! "Ich will nicht sterben! (I don't want to die!) I don't want to! I want to live! Ich habe noch nie jemanden verletzt! (I've never hurt anyone!) Please let go of me!", I shout in fear and panic.

"Take him to the prison!", orders Afghanistan. The guards turn to the door. I'm more scared than ever before. I don't usually hurt anyone. I already regret what I'm about to do. I bite one of the guards in the arm until he lets me out. I pull the other guard with me against the injured man and let both of them crash together. I am free and other guards come up to me, but on the other side are the windows. They won't get me alive! I run towards the window and fortunately the people standing in front of it go away. I take a chair and toss it against one of the large windows. The glass breaks into a thousand pieces and I jump out.

I spread my wings and rise to the sky where I become invisible.

They shoot after me with pistols and rifles, but they don't get anyone who is not visible. I still have the taste of the blood in my mouth. What else should I have done? I had no other choice. I'm flying over the mountains and back to my cave. I can't go back now. You will kill me! What should I do? Soviet said he'll take me home tomorrow. What should I do? I have no idea! It was such a stupid idea that I work in the castle! How did I get this stupid idea?! But if I had never come, Soviet might have died.

Chapter 26

I go to the pond and sit on the stone. I look at my reflection in the water. I look sad into the water. Why is everyone afraid of me? I don't bring death and bad luck, do I? I don't know. I don't know who I am, I don't know what I am or why I exist at all. I don't know what to do. Should I keep hiding until I'm found and killed? Should I travel around the world and find out if they want to kill me everywhere? Should I even see Soviet again tomorrow? What if he wants to kill me too? What if he only loves me from then? What if he breaks my heart

Maybe I'll just steal a rope and hang myself so that nobody has to suffer anymore. Then they don't have to suffer through my wings and I don't have to hide or fear anymore. They could never hurt me again. But I still have the hope that Soviet will love me with these wings too. I can't die until I keep my promise. I want to be happy once more. I want to hug him one more time. I want to kiss him one more time and tell him that I love him with all my heart. I just want to see him again once. He is the most important thing for me that there is and I want him to know that.

I get up again and go into the cave. I lie down on the floor and wrap my wings around me. What should I do? I'm not only afraid for myself, but also for Soviet. If Soviet really still loves me and takes me with him and Second Reich finds out I'm alive, Soviet will probably be in trouble. Why does everything have to be so difficult? I hate my life! No matter what I do, I get everyone in trouble! Why? Why me?! Maybe it really is better when I die. I don't know what to do anymore! I am so desperate! Maybe I should sleep and think about what to do tomorrow.

I snuggle up together. I miss my bed. I miss the books. I'm not even done with the love story. My potions and recipes are still in the castle! How could I forget that? Flying back would be a stupid idea. I'm sure they're just expecting me to come. I guess I'll stay here and try to sleep. I can't do anything better right now. It takes a long

time before I get tired and fall asleep. I'm lying in a warm and soft bed. There is someone lying next to me, when I look at his face I see Soviet. He has an arm around me and I snuggle up to him. He sleeps so calmly and peacefully that I don't want to wake him up.

I hear someone behind me, but don't turn around as I might just be imagining it. I feel a wave of pain go through me as someone rams something sharp into my back. I whimper quietly from the pain, but I try to be as quiet as I can. Whoever takes out the knife and rams it in my right eye. Who is that and why is he doing that? The knife is then rammed into my stomach. I have to stay quiet, my feeling tells me. I try to stay as quiet as possible, even if something in me at least wants to say quietly 'Ouch'. I just whimper quietly as the knife is rammed into my body over and over again.

I try to turn to the person behind me, but he put the knife in my head. I fall over and put a hand on Soviet cheek before the pain knocks me out. I am waking up slowly. I'm cold and I pulled my wings back in my sleep. I put my wings around myself again and try to sleep, but I can no longer sleep and hunger and thirst annoy me. However, I don't want to eat or drink anything. I just feel like it. I go outside and sit on the stone by the pond and look at the night sky. What should I do? I want to see him, but would get him in trouble.

I get up and take a few steps into the water and lie down on it. I lie with my back on the water and have stuck out my legs and arms. I don't go down and look up to the sky. If there is really a monster lurking in the depths of the cold pond, it can get me, I will not fight back. I will not fight back any more. The moon is so beautiful. Suddenly I see a black figure up there. I get up again, get out of the water and spread my wings. Fortunately, they are water repellent and can therefore immediately lift me into the air. I fly around the person and he stops in the air and looks after me. He's about my size.

I'm getting closer to him to find out who it is. I make myself big and try to appear dangerous. When I was closer to him, I see his black, red, yellow face with glasses and he has black wings. It is 'my little brother' Weimar. He adjusts his glasses and looks at me with wide eyes. He will pay for it! I try to attack him, but he holds his hands

protectively in front of him and says: "Please don't hurt me brother." Now he calls me 'brother' too! "I haven't been your brother for five years or hasn't your father told you yet?", I yell at him. "I didn't thought dad would do that. I didn't want him to harm you!", says Weimar.

"I don't believe you a word!", I shout angrily at him. I still want to hit him so badly. "Brother, I really didn't want and don't want to harm you. To me you are still a part of my family. I know that you are incredibly angry, but I tried to help you. Even if I didn't quite make it.", he claims. I ask him: "Give me proof!" "I gave the guards the water that you got in the cell on the third day. Because dad found out, he locked me in my room and from there I saw that you fled and I haven't told anyone about it until today.", he says.

I really didn't see him with the people back then and if he really hadn't seen me, he would certainly have fled from me earlier. Still, I don't trust him! I need a better proof. He comes closer to me, whereupon I show him my teeth. He doesn't let that frighten him and takes another swing before putting his arms around me and snuggling up to me. I am really confused. "I really missed you big brother.", he whispers. He's smiling and he seems to be crying a little too. I also put my arms around him and hug him. I guess he really missed me. "I... I'm really sorry big brother.", he apologizes.

"It's okay.", I tell him and stroke his back. After a while he lets go of me and drops a few meters down to spread his wings and flutter up to me. Weimar asks me: "How are you?" "Not good. I was at Soviet's palace for almost a moon, but Afghanistan showed everyone except Soviet who I am. Now I have no longer my great love around me and no friendly children around me.", I tell him. "Afghanistan really didn't mean it badly. She just wanted to scare you and give people security.", says Weimar, "I was just with her. She even wanted to give you the chance to fly away."

"Oh really?", I ask sarcastically, because I don't believe him. He replies: "Yes, she knows that you have these special wings and wanted everyone to feel safe, show everyone who you really are and scare you away from the castle. She doesn't want to hurt you. She also didn't tell Soviet Union anything about it, otherwise he would go crazy and since he is unpredictable, we are afraid what he

would do if he found out what my dad tried. We just want to keep the peace, brother. Your Soviet Union is incredibly dangerous when it is angry." "I still don't believe you!", I make it clear to him. "I know. I also know that you will see him again tomorrow.

I ask you to reassure him that he is not going crazy. Unfortunately I have to go back, otherwise I'll have problems with dad, but I'll be over in the next few days. I promise you brother!", he promises before he flies away and waves me goodbye. I fly back to the pond and land. Did Afghanistan really wanted to help me? Somehow my feeling believes my 'brother'. He's lying to me, but I am I'm not sure. I go back into my cave and lie down. I want to try again to sleep. I don't care about nightmares. I just want this night to go by quickly. I'm slowly falling asleep again.

Chapter 27

I wake up in the afternoon and stretch before going outside. The sky is covered with clouds and I can't see the sun. I go to the flowers by the pond. After 7 years there are still so many different flowers here, with so many different colors. One flower in particular catches my eye. It looks exactly like the blue flower that Soviet put in my hair back then. The wonderful memories come back to me. I run my fingers over the petals of the flower. They are so soft. I take the flower by its stem and pluck it. I take a good look at them. The blue and purple tones go so well together.

I push my hair to one side and stick the flower in my hair. Shortly afterwards I go to the pond and look inside. I look at the blue flower in my hair. I remember the gentle touch of Soviet and his warm lips on mine. I want those times back. I want to have these beautiful touches again. I want to work with Soviet again to get more money so that we can stay together forever. Nobody had to be afraid of death. All we had was us and that was all we needed. He was always there for me.

He protected me and gave me security. He also allowed me to do anything I want. I'm going back to my cave. I still can't get my brother's words out of my head. Could he be right? In any case, I have decided to see Soviet again this evening. I've been looking forward to it for ages and so will he, so I'll see him again. I just need him and he needs me. I don't have that much time left until I'm reunited with him. Then he can kiss me from head to toe. I go for a walk and try to be as positive as I can, but it's harder for me without him.

It starts raining while walking. I go back to the pond, but as soon as I get there I get on my knees and cry. I just have to think so much about the one moon 7 years ago. I miss it so much. The drops stroke my skin and my feathers. It feels like these drops are stroking my body and it relaxes me a lot. "Reich?", I hear behind me. Can this be? Is he there yet? I turn around and see Soviet a few meters

behind me. "S-Soviet?", I get out because I can't believe it. He looks at me with big eyes and I see a big smile form on his face.

I also smile more and more. I push myself off the ground and run to him. He also runs to me. Just before we crash together, he slows down as I jump on top of him and wrap my arms and legs around him. I hug him as tightly as I can. He puts his arms around me and holds me tight. I snuggle up to him while he hugs me. I feel a light and warm pressure on my cheek from his lips. I missed that so much! I missed him so much! I cry for joy now. Finally after so many years I have him so close to me again. I feel that he starts moving and presumably goes to the stone.

He sits down. He puts one of his warm, big and little bit rough hands on my right cheek and little bit under my chin. He lifts my chin up to his face and moves his face closer to mine. I look into his beautiful golden and glittering eyes. I lose myself in her beauty until I felt a warm and gentle pressure on my lips. In the meantime I have completely driven the rain from my thoughts. I pull myself closer to him and close my eyes. A pleasant warmth flows through my body and everything tickles inside me. I love this wonderful feeling. A warm hand strokes my feathers.

My wings put up the feathers because everything feels so incredibly good. I lightly stroke his wings with my hands, these put up the feathers just like mine. I bury my hands in its fluffy feathers before making small circular movements, which fluff up its feathers even more. He strokes my cheek with his thumb while he also goes through the wall of feathers and to the sensitive skin. He also makes those slight circular movements that lightly touch my skin and move my feathers a bit. It feels so good.

He slowly removes his lips from mine and I open my eyes again. He smiles warmly at me and I kiss him briefly on the lips again. I snuggle up to his chest and hold him tight to me. I can feel his heartbeat, which is just as fast as mine. Soviet wraps his wings around me and I snuggle closer to him. Its warmth and its calm relax me a lot. "I missed you so much Reich.", Soviet Union says quietly to me. "Me too!", I tell him, "I couldn't even wait for the last moon." "Why didn't you come back to me before that?", Soviet asks me with a little sadness in his voice.

I answer him: "I... I was afraid that you would hurt me like Second Reich... He... He wanted to kill me." "What?!", shouts Soviet shocked and looks shocked at my face. "He wanted to burn me alive.", I say quickly before I close my eyes and snuggle up to him. He says: "Who would kill his own son?... that monster." In the end, Soviet Union became quieter. "Reich, I would never harm you.", he assures me. I already know his next question and spread my right wing as answer. I bury my head in his chest even more because I'm scared.

Soviet gently strokes my feathers and says: "Wow! Reich, your wings are so incredibly beautiful." I turn my head and ask: "R-Really?" He looks at me and smiles at me before answering: "Yes, your wings are beautiful... No... more than beautiful, they are amazing and unique just like the one they belong. I love your wonderful wings. I not only love your wonderful wings, but everything about you my Reich~" I am getting even warmer. Then I pull him closer to me and put my lips to his. He loves me for who I am! I kiss him over and over again, I'm so incredibly happy.

I can't believe it after all these years he's with me again, makes me feel so good and he loves me for who I am. I want this moment to never end again. "Do we want to find shelter somewhere? I don't want you to get a cold.", he says. Good idea! The rain is still there! "I can take you to my cave!", I replied. Soviet Union stands up with me in his arms and positions his wings above me so that I don't get wet as much as possible. I guide him to my cave and when there he sits on the ground. Then I put my arms around his neck and kiss his lips over and over again. I can't stop doing it. I'll never be an inch away from him again. Soviet is mine, only mine! I will not hide anymore! I stay with him forever! Nothing can ever take it away from me again! I love him like no one else.

Chapter 28

I am lying in Soviet arms and am almost asleep when Soviet asks me: "Reich? Shall we go to my castle?" I am a little unsure. "I don't really know.", I answer. Soviet Union asks: "Why? The children would be very happy about it." "It's not about the children. They are wonderful and I get along well with them, but everyone else in the castle has something against me.", I tell him. He looks me a little more in the eyes before he asks: "How can you be so sure about that?" I put my forehead to his and look down a little before answering: "Yesterday Afghanistan revealed to everyone who I really am and everyone was afraid of me."

"Could I please hear from you what happened yesterday?", he asks me. I look him in the eyes a little unsure before I tell him: "I sat down and waited for you. Afghanistan sat down with me and recommended apple spritzer and I tried it. A few drops of reconversion drink were mixed in with it and I got my normal shape back. Everyone stood around me. The guards grabbed me and Afghanistan said they would do with me what Second Reich couldn't. I panicked and I bloody bitten one of the guards before breaking the window to get away."

I closed my eyes while talking. Soviet puts a hand on my cheek. "Reich?", he says quietly, "I'm always with you and I make sure that you don't have to suffer anymore. I love you and I do everything to ensure that you are well. Really everything." I look up at his beautiful eyes again and he puts his forehead on mine, whereupon I kiss him. Then I say: "Then we'll fly home." He kisses me and then says: "Whatever you want my prince～" I love it when he calls me that. I didn't like being called 'prince', but with Soviet it's different, he makes it so positive.

He stands up while I lie in his arms. He goes out of the cave with me and rises in the air. He's a little slower in flying than me or I'm a little heavy for his wings. Soviet snuggles up to me as we fly to his castle. He lands on the balcony before kissing my cheek and taking

me inside. After he has closed the doors behind him, he gently lays me on his bed and takes my jacket and trousers off so that I don't get too warm. He does the same with himself before he lies down next to me and littered me with numerous kisses. He is very gentle and ensures that it relaxes me, because I got a bit scared again while flying here.

At some point I hear the door of the room behind Soviet, which makes me cling to him. "All good!", whispers Soviet Union and strokes my back. "And didn't he come as I told you?", says Afghanistan. "I don't know what you mean. Get out of my room, I have to take care of someone and you are of no help!", Soviet grumbled to her. She asks, confused: "What do you mean by that?" Soviet asks me: "Please spread your wings so that she will understand." I'm pretty unsure, but I'll do what he wants. I spread a wing and put them around Soviet.

He turns to her and I take a look too. She stands there and doesn't make a sound. "Get out of my room and get the children!", he orders her. Afghanistan goes back to the room door and walks through. Soviet kisses my cheek again and I give him a hug. Shortly afterwards the door opens and all 18 children come in. Most of them don't know what's going on, I can tell from their looks. I sat up a bit so I can see better Ukraine and Russia are overjoyed and jump over to me. I fall back in bed with two happy children on top of me. Soviet starts laughing too.

"Children don't be so stormy.", he laughs. "We are, but we are so happy that our future mom has finally told you.", The two call out. I tell them: "I told you that you can call me that for a week, because I still have to talk to your father about what I am to you now." The rest of them come closer. "So you want to look after my children after all.", jokes Soviet. "Of course! With angels like them, I can't say 'no', besides I'm going to marry you, right?" "Only if you really want to.", he provokes me a little. The two kids get off me and I take Soviet on his clothes before pulling him over to me.

However, he loses his balance a little and falls forward on top of me. I lie with him on top of me, on the bed and pull him closer to me. I kiss him and answer his question with: "Yes, I would love to marry you and spend the rest of my life with the man I love more

than anything else in the whole world." "I'll take you with great pleasure as my husband, my Reich.", he says. Then Soviet smiles even more and puts his lips on mine again. I close my eyes and hear how many of the children cheer and jump around form joy. I put my arms around Soviet and hug him tightly.

Slowly he loosens his lips from mine again and stands up, rummaging in his pockets. I sat up a little. What is he up to? He takes out a small box and gets down on his knees. Will he propose to me now? At least it looks like it to me. He begins to say: "Reich der Third the loveliest, most impressive, generous, kindest, most unique, fantastic and most beautiful Countryhuman that has ever existed, will you spend the rest of your days happily with me Soviet Union the First as your husband?" He then opens the box. Inside there were two gold rings with silver decorations.

One was a little bigger and the other smaller. I can not believe it! Is this really happening right now? I can't get a word out because I'm just a little bit overwhelmed. I answer him with a nod. Again the children celebrate the moment while I still cannot realize it. Soviet giggles a bit and takes a ring. He carefully takes my hand and leads the cold ring to my ring finger. It fits perfectly. Now I can also see small crystals in the ring. Those rings must have been really expensive. I take the second ring and take Soviet's hand. After he wears his ring too, we kiss again.

Chapter 29

The children are overjoyed and jump on us. The 20 of us lie in bed together and cuddle together. I finally have a home with a family who love me. Everything is even better than I imagined. I am so incredibly happy! Suddenly I hear my stomach growl. Soviet Union sits up and puts his hand on my stomach before he says: "You sound pretty hungry. Should I get you something to eat?" "Yes, please!", I answered him before I take his hand and kiss it. Then he gently strokes my cheek and kisses me briefly before he gets up and says: "I'll be right back."

The children cuddle up to me even more. Most of the children seem quite tired to me. They are so cute. I love them so much. Children are not as bad as I once thought. I'm already starting to get tired, but I'm more hungry right now. Shortly afterwards Soviet comes back and gives me a buttered pretzel. "Thank you very much!", I thanked him quietly. He replies: "You're welcome!" I like buttered pretzels very much. I still really like pretzels. Soviet knows me so well. I sit up and bite into the pretzel. It tastes so good! Soviet sits down on the bed to my left and comes so close that I can lean against him. I snuggle up to him and he puts an arm around me.

It feels so good with him by my side. After I'm done with the buttered pretzel, I lick the butter off my fingers. The Soviet replies: "Reich, do we want to go to sleep? You look really tired." I hug him and nod. He kisses me on the lips and gets up before taking my left hand and taking me to the bathroom. We brush our teeth and he washes his and my face. I don't like washing my face, but somehow he managed it. Then we go to the children and send them to brush their teeth. We lie down in the warm bed and I take off my top.

Soviet strokes my body with his hands. He takes off his clothes and hugs me. The children lie down with us after they come back and snuggle up in the blanket. Soviet and I kiss a few more times before we lie down relaxed and a short time later I fall asleep in his arms. I dream that Soviet and I are on a field play catch and that with time

we will get older. After 5 rounds we sit on the grass. He lays his head on my lap and I play with his hair. I slowly wake up and feel this pleasant warmth around me. It's already quite light in the room.

I snuggle more to the large heat source next to me. I feel his soft skin and it goes up and down with his breaths. I snuggle closer to him and hear his heart pounding. I know from his breaths that he is waking up. I feel the arm under my head and the arm around my side move more and press me towards him. I snuggle up to him more and kiss his soft skin. I feel how he kisses my forehead and I move my head up to him and kiss him on his lips. Then I rub the sleep out of my eyes and open my eyes to see Soviet's golden eyes. He kisses me again and wishes me:

"Good afternoon, my Reich! How did you sleep?" "Good afternoon to you too, Soviet! Is it afternoon already?", I ask sleepily. "Yes, the kids have been running around the castle for hours while I stayed with you, because I know exactly how much you love it when I wake you up.", he says. I cuddle up to his chest and say thank you: "Thank you Soviet, for not waking me up." He gently strokes my face and kisses my cheek before he says: "Are we going to eat?" I nod and kiss his cheek. Soviet gets up a bit and we kiss a few more times before he gets up and gets dressed, while he gives me some new clothes.

I put everything on before I leave the room with him. We walk hand in hand through the hallway and my bad feeling comes back to me. The others in the castle will definitely throw me into the dungeon. Soviet looks at me and apparently knows what's going on because he says: "I'm with you. As long as I'm around you, nothing will happen to you. I promise!" I smile at him and snuggle up his arm. "Thanks for being there for me.", I whisper. He says: "I am always happy to be there for you." We go out of the part of the castle and to the stairs. But first the guards call: "Please stop!" I stop and cling to Soviet's arm. Soviet turns to me, puts an arm around me and presses me to his chest.

"What's the matter gentlemen?", asks Soviet Union his guards. "Your Highness would you allow us to deliver a message from the Empress?", asks one of the guards. Soviet replies: "Yes, of course."

The guard said: "We should inform you that the Empress would return to her empire because she does not want to see how the empire goes down because of you. She will stay out of the matter and concentrate on her own empire again. She wants to that you think carefully about how to proceed as you are in great danger.

Nevertheless, she wishes you good luck and joy with your great love. She also mentioned that Weimar would visit you tomorrow without Second Reich." "Thank you, gentlemen.", thanks Soviet, "I have one more request for you. Would you please let Third Reich in and out of here at any time. He belongs to the royal family." I look at the guards. "At any time, your Highness!", the guards reply. "Thank you very much, gentlemen!", thanks Soviet Union. I thank them: "Thank you very much!" Then we go down. Some people look at me anxiously, but Soviet gets me out of all the negative by running into the hallway on the ground floor and saying: "Catch up with me if you can!"

I smile, run after him and run head to head with him for a while. I am in front of him not long afterwards. I am slowing down again as I am not very good at endurance. Shortly after I stop, Soviet picks me up and kisses my cheek. "I-I would say i-it's undecided.", I pant. I'm completely out of breath. Soviet contradicts me: "No, you won! I wanted you to catch up with me and so did you, so you won." He lets me down again and we walk hand in hand down the hall. When we are at the hall he holds the door open for me. We sit down at the table. Me on my old place where I was still Nick.

Soviet picks me up and places me on his lap. While I sit on his lap, we eat together. Later we go to collect the children and go for a walk with them. Then we go back upstairs and I play Soviet and the children a few songs. I play with the children while Soviet has to take care of some documents. I then visit him in his office and massage him for a while because he is so stressed. We spend a nice evening with the children and then fly over the empire for a while before we go to bed and kiss and cuddle up.

Chapter 30

I don't know what my brother is doing here. I am ready with Soviet for his arrival. He takes my hand and looks at me with a smile. The door opens and my little brother walks in. When he sees me holding Soviet's hand, he smiles at us. He comes first to Soviet and shakes his hand before he comes to me and takes me in his arms. Soviet replies: "How about we talk in private?" "Yes, that would be much more pleasant for me.", Weimar agrees. Soviet goes ahead into the office and lets us inside. We sit on chairs. I'm next to Soviet, while Weimar is across from us. "So Weimar Republic the First, what brings you here?", asks Soviet.

Weimar says: "Firstly, I wanted to see if both of you are doing well. Secondly, I would like to make you an offer of peace." "Of course.", says Soviet he speaks to Weimar, "Peace would be really wonderful. What do you suggest Weimar?" "I would like to give you a good industrial area so that you not only have peace, but also have some profit. It is part of Bavaria's territory.", says Weimar. Soviet looks at me and I nod to him.

"We'll take your offer Weimar if you show us the area on the map at my desk.", says Soviet, before he gets up and goes to his desk. We follow him and Weimar shows us the area. This is the area where Soviet and I kissed us for the first time and we found out from each other that we were in love. It is an area with one city and six villages. "I agree!", I say happily. "Well, in addition brother, I also have a contract just for you.", says Weimar and pulls out an envelope. I take the envelope and sit on Soviet's throne.

I make myself comfortable there. It is the coziest and most beautifully decorated place in the whole castle and when I make myself comfortable on it, I usually lie down. Soviet likes it very much when I lie on his throne, then he calls me 'king' and 'your highness'. I take a piece of paper out of the envelope. I read through everything. The point is that if something happened to Weimar, I should take care of the country and its children. He has two

children GDR and FRG. I am not really sure. It would be an advantage since my biological father would not cause any problems and Weimar's children would be safe. "Weimar, I'll sign.", I tell him.

"Thank you brother!", Weimar adds, "I also have a request for you." I then ask him: "What would this be?" "I want you to see me as your little brother again.", he wants. As far as I'm concerned, he can call me that again. "I will see you as my little brother again.", I answer him, stand up and spread my arms and wings. He runs to me, I hug me with arms and wings. We hug for a while before I let go of him to sign the contract. I draw my symbol in the corner below. But when I want to give it back to him, he says: "Keep it with you. You can definitely still use it.

I can't keep you secret forever." Second Reich is guaranteed to do something bad. But so far as to hurt his son, he wouldn't g-... What am I thinking here?! Second Reich wanted to kill me! Why should he then still be nice to his other son? Soviet has the contract written with Weimar and both of them sign it. "I have one last request for you.", Weimar says. "What is your last request?", I ask. He asks us: "May I come to your wedding?" "Of course! It will take place next full moon.", replies Soviet Union to my brother. "I can already hardly wait!", he shout overjoyed.

"Nice to hear.", I think and cuddle up to my big partner, who kisses me on the cheek. I take him by his robe, pull him down to me and put my lips to his. He puts his arms around me and pulls himself towards me. I put my arms around his neck. After the kiss, I look deep into his shiny golden eyes. I kiss him again briefly before I see what my brother is doing. He looks sadly to the side. I kiss Soviet forehead briefly before going to my little brother. Soviet is coming with me. I ask Weimar: "What's wrong, little brother?" "I'm a little jealous because you guys are so happy and full of love for one another.

I wish it would have been like that with mom and dad or my wife and me.", he replies. I try to cheer him up: "You will find your true love. I have found my true love too. Besides, you're not like your father, so you have a chance of success, unlike 'father'. " "He's not that bad!", laughs Weimar. I give him a 'serious' look. "He really isn't so bad... sometimes.", says my brother. I shake my head. I

totally disagree. Weimar hugs me when we say goodbye and Soviet hugs us two before we let go and Soviet stands behind me and hugs me, whereupon he kisses me on the cheek.

My brother waves goodbye to us and smiles happily at us before leaving the room. Soviet picks me up and takes me upstairs. Once there, I read a book on Soviet's lap while he covered me with kisses and played with my hair. We make ourselves comfortable for a while, until he has to work and I play with the children. The rest of the day is calm. For a few days it was quite quiet with us. I wake up in the morning and wake up quite early, which is very rare. Soviet also wakes up and makes sure what he told me what he would do and kisses me from head to toe.

He touches almost every part of my body with his lips and also strokes my body. It feels so nice. "Reich?", he tries to get my attention. I ask: "What's the matter Soviet?" "I-I... not that important." he says. I warn him: "Tell me or I'll tickle it out of you." "Try to tickle it out of me!", he says to me with a smile on his face. I put my hands on his sides and tickle him under the arms, causing him to pull together and laugh. I push him away from me and make sure he's on the bed and I'm over him since it is much more difficult for him to get away.

I tickle him everywhere I know he's ticklish. "I'm giving up!... Ha, ha, ha, ha!... I'll tell you!", laughs Soviet. I stop and lie on top of him. "I thought about the wedding one more time. I'm sure everyone will hear about it. Your biological father, too. So that nothing happens to you, we can actually cancel the wedding so that you stay safe.", he says. I make it clear to him: "We're not going to be intimidated by this old man! We will have a wonderful and great wedding that will be talked about for decades or even centuries. We will not let this wonderful day be spoiled for us."

"You are absolutely right my Reich!", he agrees. I kiss him and snuggle up to his chest. He informs me: "I have to go to your brother's kingdom today." I turn to him and ask him: "Why?" "I still have to talk to him about a few economic things. You will stay with the children and take care of them.", he tells me. "Really?", I ask, not wanting to be that far away from him. "Yes, you will do something with the children and I'll be with you again today at

sunset.", he says. "Promise it!", I want. Soviet promises me: "I promise you!"

Chapter 31

Soviet then covered me with kisses again from top to bottom. I then lie again on top of him and relax while he strokes my body. We then go to breakfast. The people in the castle are no longer too scared of me and I greet everyone on the way to the hall. We eat together and make jokes about different things, which everyone at the table laughs about. Then Soviet and I play cards and board games with some people, because I want to play with the people here and entertain them. I also want to make friends with them and get to know them better because they are really nice.

Then I get a little tired again and we go back to our bedroom. I lie down with my head on Soviet's lap with my face turned to his stomach and a blanket around me and he reads me the love story to the end. Suddenly the door opens and someone says: "And son, did you throw this naughty artist out of the castle?" "Just because we are father and son from a biological point of view doesn't mean that you can call me that.", says Soviet, but remains relatively quiet because of me, "And no, I didn't throw him out of the castle." "Throw him out!", shouts Russian Empire. "Can you be quiet? I'm tired and Soviet is reading a story to me.", I ask.

Russian Empire asks: "Is that the naughty artist?" "Well, actually, yes." says Soviet. "Artist, what do you want to do to keep me quiet?", provokes Russian Empire. I grab a pillow and throw it in his face. Soviet bursts out laughing. With a laugh he confirms that I can throw another pillow and that's what I'm doing. In his face again! He seems a little shocked, confused and angry. I burst out laughing too. "What an insolence!", he complains and I get up and want to throw another pillow in his face, but he catches it and looks at me with a shocked expression on his face.

I laugh even more and Soviet is already laying his head on my shoulder. I wrap my wing around him and stop laughing. "Y-Y-you should b-be d-dead!", he stutters. "My Reich is not someone who likes to die.", says Soviet and kisses my cheek. "My Soviet is

absolutely right about that.", I agree and snuggle up to him. Russian Empire brings out: "I-I can't believe it!" I turn my hand so that he can see the ring. Soviet imitates me and carefully takes my hand afterwards. Russian Empire can no longer shut his mouth and can't bring a word out.

Soviet puts an arm around me before putting his lips on mine and hugging me. I put my free arm around him. After the kiss, we look at Soviet's father, who looks like he's about to faint. I didn't want to go that far. Soviet lets go of me, gets up and goes to his father. "You knew I was still in love with him, so don't pretend it's a wonder.", says Soviet. The old Countryhuman stutters: "I-I have to process the whole thing first." Then he goes out of the room. "Soviet? Have we gone too far?", I ask uncertainly. He replies: "Not at all! In a few hours he will be able to yell at me again."

We lie down again and relax until Soviet slowly gets up and puts on something else. He comes to me, kisses me and says: "I'll see you at sunset. I promise!" I kiss him again and snuggle up to him. "See you then my emperor!", I call after him as he leaves the room. "See you then, my prince!", he calls out before he sends me a kiss and leaves the room. It still takes a while before I get up and spend time with the kids. They are very energetic again. Later on, I'm so tired that I fall asleep out of nowhere while resting on the bed.

I open my eyes It's sunset. The light from the sun shines orange in the bedroom. I get up, I walk down the hall and don't see the children anywhere, normally I should have to hear them as they are usually not particularly quiet. I go down the stairs and outside. Soviet is getting out of his carriage and comes to me. I take him in my arms and then walk inside hand in hand with him. We go upstairs and cuddle in bed. Everything is so comfortably warm. The warm slowly disappears and everything looks darker. I open my eyes and see that it is already dark and that Soviet is not next to me.

Where is Soviet and where are the children? I get up and walk down the hall. I can hear the children. I go into the room where they are and ask: "Children do you know where your father is?" Everyone shakes their heads. I go out of the room and look for him in every room in the castle. Where is he? He promised me to come

at sunset and now it's after sunset. "Soviet?!", I shout all over the castle and panic more and more. I have to keep calm. He's probably somewhere and... I don't know. What could he do? He promised me to come. What should I do? Maybe I'll sit down on the balcony and wait for him, that's where he can find me the easiest.

I go back upstairs and sit on the balcony area. Where is he? Has something happened to him? Is he in danger? "Mom?", I hear behind me. I turn to Belarus. "What's wrong?", I ask her. "The same thing, I wanted to ask you too.", she says. I explain: "I'm worried about your father. He promised me to come at sunset and I can't find him anywhere." "Come on in, then we can both wait for Dad. It's too cold for me out here.", says Belarus. I walk to her and say: "Well, let's go in." We sit on the bed and wait for him.

Chapter 32

I wait and wait nothing changes except that Belarus fell asleep. Where on earth is Soviet? Why didn't he keep his promise? Has something happened to him? Should I fly to the palace and look for him there? I definitely won't find him there. Why should someone harm Soviet? He's a good and nice emperor, no one would... He was almost killed once before. I hope he's fine and he's just late... very late. I let all sorts of scenarios play in my head. I am very afraid for him. I'll wait until the sun comes up again, then I'll fly off to find him.

I lie closer to Belarus and pull the blanket over her a little before I make myself comfortable and wait, but while waiting I fall asleep. "Your Highness! Please wake up!", I hear and get shaken awake. I open my eyes and ask: "What's going on?" "I have to get you to safety. We are under attack!", informed the man who woke me up. Wait a minute... we're under attack!? Now I stand up straight away and wake up Belarus. "Mom?", she mumbles sleepily. "Get up and go to your siblings and wake them up immediately!", I tell her, from which she immediately gets up and runs to the room.

I get up and quickly put on a top as I run. I go to the other room and wake everyone up. I carry those who are still half asleep in my arms. With my wings I make sure that some of the ones who have panic calm down a little. We run down the stairs and out of the castle. I can hear the first explosion behind us. We and the many people from the castle run into a bunker. Russian Empire also runs into it. When everyone is inside, the hatch is closed. The children hold on to me in fear while I wrap my wings around them. "You only bring bad luck!", says Russian Empire to me.

I look at him and I'm pretty angry. I grumbled: "I'm only bring bad luck? I bring bad luck?! Just shut your mouth! I've have enough to hear this all the time! I bring no bad luck! I'm a Countryhuman like any other! And I've had enough of this trash! Your son has disappeared and the castle is being bombed and you can think of

nothing better than to blame me for everything! No wonder Soviet no longer sees you as a member of his family!" After seeing the shocked expression on his face, I turn back to the children and reassure them: "Everything will be fine! Don't be afraid. Mama is with you and protects you."

We wait for a while to be told: "It is over." "Children you stay here!", I tell them and let go of them to go outside. Once outside, I see the extent of the destruction. The biggest parts of the castle collapsed. I've never seen something like this. I'm going to the ruins. The furniture is for the most part buried by the pieces of wall that are lying around everywhere. I can not believe it. The big impressive castle destroyed. Who was that? Who would do that? If not everyone in the castle had been warned, it would have been a bloodbath. I walk over the ruins and look carefully at everything.

When a part slips, I flap my wings to stay up. All of a sudden I see something that looks strange and doesn't belong here. Black feathers? Not only one. There are a few and they form a kind of track. I follow the track and see more and more red liquid, probably blood, but I'm not entirely sure. Some of the liquid is already dry. I discover bits of yellow skin. At some point I see a large piece of wall and a yellow arm and a completely bent black wing peek out from under the piece of wall. I'm scared, but I approach carefully. I see bent glasses with broken lenses. Please don't let it be my brother! I go to the wall piece and see the head clearly peeking out from under the piece of wall.

He has several injuries on his head and his eyes are open, but his gaze is rigid and lifeless. His jaw is drooping a little oddly too. I go closer to him. Is he dead? Please not! I put three fingers on his cheek. His skin feels limp and has lost some of its warmth. I quickly pull my hand away from his lifeless body. He really is dead. I keep going backwards. My brother is dead? That can't really happen, can it? I'm just imagining it. It's all just fantasy! My brother is fine and he's in his castle doing something. This is not real! The sight of it makes me feel uncomfortable.

I hear something to my left. It sounds like whimpering. I get up and walk in the direction of the sound. I see someone behind some rubble. I go closer and see two children there. There are two

Countryhumans children and according to the description they are FRG and GDR. Both hold tight to each other. The poor children. They are not even six years old and then they sit here with their dead father only a few meters away from them. I come to them and wrap my wings around them. The two small children flinch and look at me scared. I tell them: "Hello you two. I am your uncle Third Reich." "What's the matter with dad?", GDR asks me, frightened. "He's sleeping and I'm supposed to take care of you both until he wakes up again.", I tell them.

"Really?", GDR asks me, while FRG turns away from me. I answer: "Yes, your father told me that. He thought I could take care of you for so long. I'll take you away from the ruins first." "But my sister injured her foot.", GDR informed me. I look carefully at FRG's leg before I say: "I'll carry you if you don't mind." She nods to her brother and he replies: "You can carry her." I carefully pick up FRG so that she is in my arms and walk back to the bunker with GDR behind me and with FRG in my arms. Immediately the 18 children rushed towards me. "Mom? Who are the two?", Ukraine asks me.

"The two will stay with you for a while.", I tell them and slowly set down FRG. Fortunately, she only has a bruise on her knee. I go to Estonia, since she is the oldest and whispered to her: "I am the uncle of the two of them. They have lost their father and could be traumatized, so please be careful. I will send you to Afghanistan and look for Soviet.", she nods at it. "Mom why are you crying?", Russia asks me. I only now realize that I am crying. "I just have to think about something. Don't worry, I'm fine!", I reassure him. I go to a few people and ask them: "Please see to that the 20 children come to Afghanistan's palace." "We will take care of it immediately, your Highness!". says one of the people.

Chapter 33

I'm going out of the bunker. I'm going back to the ruins of the castle. On the way I try to wipe away my tears, but they don't stop. I think maybe I had a bit of a shock beforehand and that's why I'm crying now. However, I don't want to cry. I want to think about what to do. I sit down and only now notice how cold it is without trousers and a jacket and I have no shoes on. It brings a feeling of freedom, but walking around barefoot is also very uncomfortable, depending on the surface.

I said I was going to look for Soviet, but I have no idea where he might be and I also want to know who was responsible for the destruction of the castle and my brother's death. I don't know anything about the attack. Whoever attacked us might want as many people to die as they can. I can't find out who bombed the castle yet, but I have a guess and I might find Soviet there too. After I finally stop crying, I will fly away immediately.

Should I check again to see if my brother is alive? I don't know if what I've seen is real, but I don't want to see it again. I only know that the scene is horrible and that's all I need to know about it. I calm down after a while and have mostly wiped away most of my tears. I spread my wings and take of. I will fly to Second Reich and confront him, because if he is responsible for the attack, maybe I can use my words to get him to stop doing it, because there is actually peace between the Empire and the Kingdom.

The treaty! I fly back quickly and look for the treaty in the ruins of Soviet's office. I have to move some of the wall pieces out of the way until I can find some papers. I look at every paper and put those that I don't need back so that I can put the wall pieces back on afterwards so that they don't fly away from the wind. After a short time I find the piece of paper I'm looking for and put the pieces of wall back on top of the others. I'm flying off again. I'm incredibly scared, but I can leave at any time if it gets too dangerous for me. I hope I can talk to him without having to risk

my life for a little chat.

All I want is Soviet and peace. I fly over the mountains and over the border, but I see something that I don't like at all. I see some tanks making their way to Soviet's country. It is becoming more and more likely that Second Reich was behind the attack. I'm flying over the hills deeper into the kingdom. I would like to fly in front of the tanks and show them the treaty, but that probably wouldn't do much. I see the palace on the mountain and make myself invisible. I haven't been here in 5 years. Not much has changed. A little, but not as much as I expected.

I have no idea where the cells were, otherwise I could just look there. I fly lower and see the courtyard where I almost died. I land on the gravel path and go to the castle entrance. Walking on gravel is not painless. The closer I get, the quieter and slower I get so that the guards in front of it don't notice that I'm walking this way. I stand in the corner and wait until one of the guards goes inside, after which I follow him. When I arrive in the hall, I rub the gravel off my feet. I then go through the hall to the hall and go to the throne room.

Once there, I see the Second Reich and a presumably 3-year-old Countryhumans child that is crawling around on the floor. The child looks like Second Reich from the flag on his face. The child is still so small and so cute. Second Reich is on his throne and does not look on with delight at the little child. Why? Did the child do anything wrong? "Papa ich hab Hunger. (Papa, I'm hungry.)", says the little child. From the voice it sounds like it is 4 or 5 years old. "Deutschland, du musst noch zwei Stunden warten, dann gibt es Mittagsessen. (Germany, you have to wait two more hours, then there will be lunch.)", says Second Reich. The child repeats: "Ich habe Hunger! (I'm hungry!)" "Es reicht! Wenn du weiter so nervst gibt es gar kein Essen für dich! (It's enough! If you continue to annoy me, there will be no food for you!)", complains Second Reich.

Germany looks down. Since when has Second Reich been so mean to children? Maybe I'll get the little one something to eat. I go into the kitchen and get a piece of pretzel and go to the little Countryhuman. I put the piece in front of him. He grabs it happily and bites into it enthusiastically. Then I'll go back, because I have to

talk to Second Reich. I'm in a panic, but if I don't talk to him, I won't be able to bring peace and probably save Soviet. I am slowly making myself visible and getting closer to Second Reich, who sits on his throne. "Zweites Reich du hast den Kaiser Sowjet Union gefangen genommen und greifst sein Land an. (Second Reich you have captured the emperor Soviet Union and are attacking his country.)", I say loudly.

I don't know if he's responsible, but it's very likely and so I'll find it out. He turns to me and then looks at me like I'm a ghost. He presses himself tightly against his throne and makes no sound. He really believed that I died. I approach him and try not to show my fear. My feathers fluff up, making me look taller and more threatening. "Ich bin hier, um mit dir zu reden. (I'm here to talk to you.)", I tell him before I stop. I stop at least four meters away from him. "Nein, nein, nein! Mit so etwas wie dir rede ich nicht! WACHEN ERGREIFT IHN!!! (No, no, no! I'm not talking to something like you! CATCH HIM!!!)", he yells. A lot of guards are already approaching me.

I have to make him an offer that he can't refuse. I make myself invisible and fly up. I fly a few laps while the guards, very disoriented, aim their weapons at anything that moves. Second Reich seems to have noticed himself that this doesn't work. I fly behind his throne and ask him: "Wo ist Sowjet Union? (Where is Soviet Union?)" "Er ist im Kerker. (He's in the dungeon.)", replies Second Reich, who tried to find me through the conversation. "Lass ihn frei! (Let him go!)", I shout and fly away from my hiding place. The guards are looking for me behind the throne, but I've been too quick.

"Wir werden ihn nicht freilassen! (We won't let him go!)", roars Second Reich. I have to come up with some kind of offer! I have a pretty stupid idea right now, but it could work as well as I know Soviet and Second Reich. I'll try, but only if my original idea doesn't work. I land where the guards are and wrap my wings around me before I become visible again. Nobody wants to touch the white part of my wings, which is why it gives me protection against the people around me. I go forward towards the throne. I take out the treaty and hold it out to Second Reich. "Weimar und ich haben

diesen Vertrag am selben Tag unterzeichnet als er mit Sowjet den Friedensvertrag unterschrieben hat. Darin steht, falls Weimar etwas zustößt nehme ich seinen Platz als König ein. Daher ist das mein Thron und mein Land. (Weimar and I signed this treaty on the same day that he signed the peace treaty with Soviet.

It says, if something happens to Weimar, I'll take his place as king. So this is my throne and my country.)", I make it clear to them. "Weimar geht es gut, er wurde nur etwas wütend und ist irgendwo mit seinen Kindern hingeflogen. Er- (Weimar is fine, he just got a little angry and flew to somewhere with his children. He-)", he wanted to say. I interrupt: "Er ist mit den Kindern zu Sowjets Schloss geflogen und dort war ein Bombenangriff und ich habe ihn unter den Trümmern gefunden und seine Kinder haben sich in der Nähe versteckt. (He flew with the children to Soviet's castle and there was a bombing there and I found him under the rubble and his children were hiding nearby.)"

"Das ist eine Lüge! (That's a lie!)", claims Second Reich. "Du kannst nicht bestätigen, dass- (You cannot confirm that-)", I am interrupted by him. "LÜGE!!! (LIE!!!)", Second Reich roars. I believe I can't achieve anything with it, so Plan B. "Ich hätte auch ein Angebot für dich, dass du nicht abschlagen wirst. (I also have an offer for you that you won't refuse.)", I say. God is this a stupid idea! "Welches Angebot? (Which offer?)", asks Second Reich.

Chapter 34

"Bevor ich dir mein Angebot sage, möchte ich von dir wissen, was es mit dem Angriff, das Abhauen von Weimar und das gefangen nehmen von Sowjet auf sich hat. Ich brauche diese Informationen für das Angebot. (Before I tell you my offer, I would like to know from you what the attack, the running off from Weimar and the capture of Soviet are all about. I need this information for the offer.", I tell him. He looks at me skeptically while I look calmly at him. Inside I'm really scared, but I face my fear, otherwise I will lose the man I love. My Soviet is the most important thing for me that there is and I'll do anything for him. No matter what! "Ich hatte schon lange vor das Kaiserreich zu übernehmen und da Sowjet Union so dumm ist und persönlich irgendwo hinfliegt ohne jegliche Wachen oder Verteidigungsmöglichkeiten, war es einfach ihn gefangen zu nehmen und sein Land anzugreifen.

Ich habe zum Demonstrieren der Schwäche und Schutzlosigkeit seines Landes, den Palast angreifen lassen. Endlich werden wir mehr Land in unseren Besitz haben. Mein Land braucht schon seit Jahren mehr Land. Und Weimar ist nur zur Hälfte König. Ich bin der König, doch er sollte mein Nachfolger werden, auch wenn er nicht gerade der Beste darin ist, was besonders der Friedensvertrag beweist. Er verschenkt Land, dass wir brauchen. Ich wollte es wieder richtigstellen, doch dachte mir, warum nicht gleich um einiges mehr Land bekommen. Ich habe Sowjet Union einsperren lassen, nachdem er mit Weimar geredet hat. Als Weimar das erfahren hatte ist er mit seinen Kindern eingeschnappt weggeflogen.

Sowjet Union wird in den kommenden Tagen umgebracht, da es dann niemanden gibt, außer seinen Kindern, die seinen Platz als Kaiser einnehmen können, doch diese sind zu klein dafür. Er ist auch von Afghanistan geschieden, also haben sie schon so gut wie verloren. (I had long planned to take over the empire and since Soviet Union is so stupid and personally flies somewhere without any guards or defenses, it was easy to capture him and attack his country.

To demonstrate the weakness and defenselessness of his country, I had the palace attacked. We will finally have more land in our possession. My country has needed more land for years. And Weimar is only half king. I am the king, but he should be my successor, even if he is not exactly the best at it, which the peace treaty particularly proves. He's giving away land that we need. I wanted to put it right again, but thought to myself, why not get a lot more land right away. I had Soviet Union locked up after he talked to Weimar. When Weimar found out about this, he flew away with his children.

Soviet Union will be killed in the coming days because there will be no one except his children who can take his place as emperor, but they are too small for that. He's divorced from Afghanistan too, so they practically lost.)", he explains to me. I look at my ring again. I'm a Countryhuman with royal blood and I am the fiancé of Soviet. I disagree: "Ich muss dich enttäuschen, es gibt jemanden der seinen Platz einnehmen könnte. (I have to disappoint you, there is someone who could take his place.)" "Wer denn? Hat er sich etwa in irgendeine Verliebt? (Who? Has he fallen in love with anyone?)", says Second Reich.

Should i show him? It's relatively unimportant to my plan, so I can actually tell him. I show him the ring and smile a little. He looks at me in surprise. "Nicht dein Ernst!? (You are serious!?)", he says. I answer: "Oh, ja! Ich bin Sowjets Verlobter. (Oh yes! I'm Soviet's fiancé.)" He seems to be getting a little angry. Why does he look angry? He thinks I bring bad luck, so I bring bad luck to those he attacks. Gain for him. However, I'll make him the stupid offer before he changes his mind. "Mein Angebot für dich ist: Du wirst Sowjet freilassen und dafür mache alles was du willst. (My offer for you is: You will release Soviet and I do whatever you want.)", I offer him. It's a terrible idea, but if Soviet is safe, he can save his empire and save me too.

I won't say how long I'll do everything for him either, so I can leave anytime. Second Reich seems to like the offer. "Einverstanden! (I agree!)", he says and looks at me happily. "Holt Sowjet. (Get Soviet.)", I tell him. "Gut. (Good.)" he says, before turning to his guards, "Holt den Kaiser hier her. (Bring the emperor here.)" "Wird

sofort erledigt eure königliche Hoheit! (Will be done immediately, Your Royal Highness!)", say four guards. "Knie nieder vor mir! (Kneel down in front of me!)", Second Reich orders me. I do what he wants and kneel down in front of him. It feels horrible to kneel in front of someone like him.

He seems very excited about it. I'm doing all this rubbish only for Soviets. Shortly afterwards I hear steps from several people and hear a confused: "Reich?" Soviet will definitely not like it when I tell him what kind of offer I made to Second Reich. "Entfernt die Ketten des Kaisers und lasst ihn los. (Remove the emperor's chains and let go of him.)", Second Reich orders his guards. The guards confirm with: "Sehr wohl eure königliche Hoheit! (Very well your Royal Highness!)" Second Reich moves closer to Soviet. "Nehmt dafür dieses Wesen des Todes gefangen. (Capture this being of death.)", he commands as he points at me. Soviet says in shock: "What?" When he sees that I let myself be captured and do nothing about it.

After Soviet is freed from the chains, he runs his hands over his wrists. Then he comes closer to me and seems like he doesn't understand the situation. I wouldn't believe my eyes either if I were him. I look down a little ashamed to look more realistic. I hear a strange noise. It sounds like fabrics are tearing and being cut through meat. When I look at Soviet I see something coming out through his chest and it's covered in red blood. The blood is dripping down from the object and is forming an growing red puddle on the floor. In Soviet's eyes I see his fear.

He looks at the thing sticking out through his chest. Is this really happening right now?! "S-Soviet?", I asked, completely shocked and with increasing panic. The thing from his chest is pulled back, creating a hole in his chest. The Soviet expression is full of pain and panic. I have to go to him! I have to be with him! I have to save him somehow! I pull and pull, but I can't get away. I dig my sharp teeth deep into the arms of the two men and tear myself free. I don't care about the taste of blood. I run to Soviet who is on his knees. I have my hands and wings tied behind my back, which is why I use my head to keep him from falling to the ground.

I feel the tears in my eyes that make my vision blurred. Soviet slips to one side in such a way that he is lying on the ground. I snuggle

my face against his cheek. I don't hear anything around me anymore, because for me there is just this horrible scene. "Soviet... stay with me.", I whisper to him. "My Reich.", he says and puts his hand on my cheek, before he continues a little more quietly: "I will always stay with you." Soviet smiles slightly and wipes away some of my tears. I'm being grabbed and pulled away from him. I don't want to go away! I want to stay with him! I fight against it, but they are to strong for me and take me away. I want to go to Soviet! I can't live without him! I need him! He means everything to me! I love him! Let go of me! I have to help Soviet somehow! I don't want to lose him!

Chapter 35

I see Soviet lying on the ground without strength. Blood keeps pouring out of his wound. It is more than just an agony to see the one I love suffer. I cannot help him and feel helpless as I am taken away and see him farther and farther away. I only give up fighting when I can no longer see him. I have no more strength in my body. I close my eyes as I am dragged away. Why should I still fight? Without Soviet my life has no meaning any more. I'm only alive because of him. Only now do I really notice the horrible taste of blood in my mouth. I also only now notice how wet my face is from all the tears.

I don't care, everything I do is worthless. I should have been the one who died and not my Soviet! I get thrown with my back first somewhere. It hurts, but not as much as the pain in my heart. I lie there for a while until I roll over on my stomach and try to free myself from the chains. Barely started, I'm already giving up. Why should I break free? What use is that to me? I use my legs to move into a corner. I lie on my back and look up. Before I die, I'll take revenge! Nobody can do anything to my Soviet without paying for it! Second Reich will regret it!

He will pay with his life! I'll kill him even if that's the last thing I do! My tears don't stop pouring down. Everything feels incredibly cold. My body is shaking from the cold around me and the cold inside me. I've lost the one I love most in the whole world. I never thought it felt as horrible as it feels right now. I should have done something! But what could I have done to save him? I was unable to break free and in any way afford him medical help. Still, I should have done something! It's my fault! If I didn't exist, Soviet would be happy and alive.

He would have someone better than me. There wouldn't even be a war. Second Reich would certainly not have been so cold hearted. Everyone would be better off without me. If only I wouldn't exist! I really only bring suffering, bad luck and death, I can't do anything

better. I don't want to live anymore. Why did Soviet have to die and why do I just have to love him? How could he just love someone, no, something like me? He deserves someone better! I look at the ring. Why only me? Why did he only take me of all Countryhumans?

He had taken me from every human, every Statehuman and every Countryhuman in the world. Why? I am the most worthless of the most worthless. What do I have that he is so fond of? Why was I so special to him? I will probably never find out. My tears are slowly stopping and I am very thirsty. My eyes hurt from crying so much. I hear the door to my cell open. I take a quick look. It's Second Reich. He will want more to have killed me! I am waiting for him to come closer to me. He comes closer to me.

I show him my sharp teeth and growl a little bit, he won't let me intimidate him and he comes closer. I push myself off the ground and rush towards him at insane speed. He evades. I fall to the ground, but I push myself up to try again. I try three more times, but I miss him every time. I give up, he can do whatever he wants with me. My life has no meaning anyway, so he should do what he wants with me. He goes to me and takes out a kind of muzzle. He attaches it to my head. Why should I do anything against it?

I also raise my head so he can attach it better. If I don't have this thing on, I'm guaranteed to bite someone or somehow break free when I'm scared or angry. I can tell by the look on his face that he's confused. I put my head back on the floor, even if it's uncomfortable with the thing. I don't want to fight anymore. I never want to fight anything again. In the end, everything is useless anyway. Second Reich is about to leave my cell when I ask him: "Wann werde ich ins Gras beißen? (When will I die?)" He looks at me slightly confused before he says: "Tonight." "Sorge bitte dafür, dass es so schmerzhaft ist, wie es geht. (Please make sure that it is as painful as it can be.)", I ask him, which makes him even more confused.

"Warum das? (Why that?)", he asks me. I answer him with: "Ich will einfach nur dafür leiden, dafür dass ich jedem den Tod bringe, wie in dem Märchen. Sogar der, den ich liebe stirbt wegen mir. Ich hätte niemals existieren sollen! (I just want to suffer for bringing death to everyone, like in the fairy tale. Even the one I love dies

because of me. I should never have existed!)" Somehow it looks like he's feeling sorry form the expression on his face. I turn my head in the exact opposite direction. "Weißt du noch um was das Märchen geht? (Do you remember what the fairy tale is about?)", asks Second Reich. "Ja, klar! (Yeah, sure!)", I say, "Es geht darum, dass ein Countryhuman halbweiße Flügel bekommen hat und er seinen Leuten unendliches Pech gebracht hat und sie ihn deswegen umgebracht haben. (Its about a Countryhuman got half white wings and he brought his people endless bad luck and they killed him because of it.)"

"Nicht so ganz. (Not exactly.)", he claims, "Er hat falsche Entscheidungen getroffen und die halbweißen Flügel sollen darstellen, das Ungewöhnliches nicht gut ist. Ich kann mir selbst nicht einmal erklären was für deine halbweißen Flügel gesorgt hat. (He made wrong decisions and the half white wings are supposed to represent that unusual is not good. I can't even explain to myself how you got your half-white wings.)" I get up and come closer to him. "Und das sagst ausgerechnet du! Wegen dir hatte ich Angst, dass mich irgendjemand überhaupt mag, ich irgendjemanden vertrauen kann oder mich jeder auf der ganzen Welt umbringen will! Ich hatte Angst, das Sowjet irgendetwas passieren könnte, doch am Ende ist er gestorben wegen mir! I-Ich... (And that's what you say now! Because of you, I was afraid that anyone would even like me, that I could trust anyone or that everyone in the whole world would want to kill me! I was afraid that something might happen to Soviet, but in the end he died because of it me! I-I...)", at the end I fall silent, because I'm exhausted. I can't get a word out and can no longer form sentences.

Chapter 36

I get on my knees and look down as I have barely any strength left. "Du bist nicht an seinem Tod schuld und du bringst auch kein Unglück. Vertraue mir einfach, du bist toll genauso wie du bist und du bringst mehr Glück und Licht, in das Herz anderer Menschen, Statehumans und Countryhumans, als viele andere. Du musst einfach nur dein wahres ich zeigen. (You are not to blame for his death and you do not bring any bad luck. Just trust me, you are great just the way you are and you bring more happiness and light into the hearts of other people, Statehumans and Countryhumans, than many others. You just have to show the real you.)", says Second Reich and crouches down before he hugs me.

Why does he say such a thing? It's really nice and full of emotion, but what if it's another lie? Why does the Second Reich hold me tight? "Tut mir leid, dass ich dich reinlege. Ich kann dich jedoch jetzt noch nicht hier rausholen. (I'm sorry for fooling you. I can't get you out of here yet.)", he says, stroking my arms and wings with his hands. That is not Second Reich or is he? I mean: "Ich will nicht hier weg, ich will sterben. Mein Leben hat keinen Sinn. (I don't want to leave, I want to die. My life has no meaning.)" "Aber was wird dann aus den Kindern? Was wird aus dem Volk? Willst du etwa alles aufgeben? (But what will happen to the children? What will happen to the people? Do you want to give up everything?)", Second Reich asks me.

"Ja, ohne meinem Sowjet ist alles für mich nutzlos. Jeder ist besser dran ohne mich. (Yes, everything is useless to me without my Soviet. Everyone is better off without me.)", I answer him. He puts his hand on mine with the ring, he also has a ring on his hand. "I'll get you out of here." he says before kissing my forehead and slowly walking outside. What just happened? Why did he kiss my forehead? Why did he speak English at the beginning and at the end where he was here? I have misheard something? That wasn't Second Reich. But who else should he be? I do not understand anything. I lie down on the floor and hide my head in my top

because my face is cold. I later notice that it is a different cell than the one last time. Why is it only now that I notice?

There are no bars here to look out to other cells or into the hallway, but here are some to look out into freedom. The sunlight shines through them. After some time passed, I see that it is afternoon. The cell door opens again and Second Reich comes to me again and says: "Ich brauche etwas von dir und bringe dir etwas zu essen. (I need something from you and bring you something to eat.)" He has a basket with him. "Was brauchst du von mir? (What do you need from me?)", I ask him. "Ich bräuchte einen Tropfen Blut von dir, für einen Trank, der mir hilft, dich hier rauszuholen. (I need a drop of blood from you for a potion that will help me get you out of here.)", he explains.

"Wie oft muss ich dir noch sagen, dass ich sterben will! (How often do I have to tell you that I want to die!)", I yell at him, "Ich will nicht weg! Ich will mi- (I don't want to leave! I want t-)" He grabs my shoulders and says: "I'll get you out of here. I need you. I won't be able to tell you who I really am until later, but I need you and will get you out of here. I don't want you to suffer. I'll try to solve everything together with you." He puts his hand on my cheek and asks: "Will you allow me to take a drop of blood from you?" If it is that important to him. I nod in response. "Danke! (Thanks!)", comes from him and he takes off the chains around my arms before he frees my wings and takes off the muzzle.

Why does he let me free? He has a knife and hesitantly cuts into the skin of my hand. It's just a small cut and it didn't even hurt me. A drop of blood slowly forms and he takes a spoon and lets the drop flow up before stirring it into his potion. "Hat es dir wehgetan? (Did it hurt you?)", he asks and looks at the wound. "Nein, überhaupt nicht. (No, not at all.)" I answer him. He takes a quick look at the wound. He takes out a potion and says: "Trink das. (Drink this.)" "Was ist das? (What is that?)", I ask uncertainly. He replies: "Es sorgt dafür, dass du wie Zweites Reich aussiehst. (It makes you look like Second Reich.)"

I take a sip of the potion. He takes a sip of the potion with my blood in it and turns into me. I've never seen such potions before. I didn't know there were potions that would transform you in such a way.

"Wer bist du eigentlich und wo ist der echte Zweite Reich? (Who are you and where is the real Second Reich?)", I ask him. "Wer ich bin kann ich dir noch nicht sagen, sonst könntest du später falsch reagieren. Der echte Zweite Reich ist in einem Schrank in seinem Zimmer eingeschlossen. (Who I am I can't tell you yet, otherwise you could react wrongly later. The real Second Reich is locked in a closet in his room.)", he replies.

He hands me the basket before asking: "Bevor du etwas isst, könnten wir bitte die Kleidung tauschen und könntest du mir bitte helfen die Ketten an mir anzubringen? (Before you eat, could we please change the clothes and please help me put the chains on me?)" I nod and we each go to a different corner of the cell. "Du hast einen echt wunderschönen Körper. (You have a really beautiful body.)", he says. I have no idea what to say about it. What does he mean? "Danke, glaube ich mal. (Thank you, I think so.)", I answer unsure, which he giggles at. He seems incredibly familiar to me. Who is he? After we're done, I'll put the chains on him. This is so strange to put someone who looks like you in chains.

He informs me: "In deiner rechten Hosentasche ist der Vertrag, den du und Weimar unterschrieben haben. Ich soll erschossen werden. Versuche die Leute zu überreden, dass es Unsinn ist. Wenn du es nicht schaffst, bring meine Leiche irgendwo hin, wo ich jederzeit wieder weg kann, wenn ich wieder anfange mich zu bewegen. (In your right trouser pocket is the contract that you and Weimar signed. I'm supposed to be shot. Try to convince people that it's nonsense. If you can't do it, take my corpse somewhere where I can go again at any time if I start moving again.)" I look at him confused. "Mach das bitte so. (Please do it like that.)", he asks me.

I answer him with : "Na gut. (Okay.)" Can he rise from the dead? I've never heard that something like this is possible. "Wo sind eigentlich deine Kinder? (Where are your children?)", he asks me. Should I tell him? I answer: "In Sicherheit und sie sind eher die Kinder meines Verlobten. (In safety and they are more like my fiance's children.)" "Trotzdem sind es auch irgendwie deine. (Nevertheless, they are somehow yours too.)", he says. Somehow he's right about that. The children see me as their mother. After I'm done, he asks me: "Could I get a kiss on the forehead, please." I

don't think much about it and kiss his forehead before I tell him: "Bis später und danke!

Ich werde alles versuchen, damit du nicht sterben musst. (See you later and thank you! I'll try everything so you don't have to die.)" "Bis dann! Ich werde nicht so leicht sterben, sonst würden meine Kinder mich dafür hassen und du garantiert auch. (See you then! I won't die that easily, otherwise my children would hate me for it and you will definitely hate me too.)", he says. I don't quite understand what he means by that yet, but I'll find out later. I feel bad for him. He did so much for me. Now he's even risking his own life for me. Who is he? In any case, he saved my life. But why?

Chapter 37

I go through the hallways to my old room. It's still exactly as I remembered it. In order not to appear strange, I go to Second Reich's room. It still seems like it used to be. I close the door and sit on a wooden chair before I look into the basket, there is chocolate, a pear and an apple in it. I take out the pear and bite into it. Really juicy, but I imagined it to be sweeter. I go to the bed and lie down. I put my arms around myself and imagine being hugged by Soviet. I miss him so much. Why did Second Reich just do that? Actually, I could ask him.

I go to the closet and open a door, there is Second Reich with only one pair of underpants. He is tied up, has a cloth over his mouth and is unconscious. I close the closet door again. I honestly don't know what to say about it. It's kind of really funny and on the other hand, I feel sorry for him lying there tied up. He took a lot from me, including my Soviet, but I still feel empathy for him. I want to release him and give him back his clothes, but I'll do it later, first I have to save a life and a country. As I put on my father's royal gown for the evening, I notice something.

This something can really help me later when giving a speech. My biological father is more like me than I thought, but I also ask myself more questions than before. I lie back on the bed and wonder what to say. I have to save the one who saved my life. After a long time I go to dinner and check on him again. He sleeps peacefully on the cold and icy stone floor. Then I go back upstairs and meet Germany lying in the bed of Second Reich. When he sees me he quickly gets down from the bed. "Du kannst, wenn du willst auf dem Bett bleiben. (You can stay on the bed if you want.)", I tell him as I walk towards him.

I sit down next to him. I could actually tell him who I am right? Did he actually see my Soviet? If so, then he must be traumatized from the bloody scene. The little one hugs me and cuddles up to me. I put my arms around the little boy and stroke his back. "Was ist los?

(What's up?)", I ask the little Countryhuman. The child asks me: "Wo ist der von dem du erzählt hast? (Where is the one you told me about?)" "Wen meinst du? (Who do you mean?)", I ask him confused. "Bist du dieser Reich, von dem er gesprochen hat? (Are you that Reich he was talking about?)", he asks. I answer him: "Ich bin Drittes Reich. Was hat der von vorhin gesagt? (I am Third Reich. What did he say earlier?)" "Er hat von dir ohne Pause geredet und hat sich große Sorgen um dich gemacht. (He talked about you without a break and was very worried about you.", Germany replied to me.

"Wirklich? (Really?)", I ask him. The little one answered with: "Ja! Und er hat mir gesagt, dass wenn du und er in Sicherheit seid, wird er mich hier weg holen, wenn ich will, dann werde ich viele Brüder und Schwestern haben. (Yes! And he told me that if you and he are safe, he will take me away from here if I want, then I will have many brothers and sisters.)" "Weißt du schon wie viele? (Do you already know how many?)", I ask. The little Countryhuman answers: "Leider noch nicht, doch ich weiß, dass alles viel besser wird. Ich werde tolle Eltern haben und super Geschwister. (Not yet, but I know that everything will be much better. I will have great parents and great siblings.)" "Schön zu hören. (Nice to hear.)", I find. What I saw from Second Reich was not at all nice, so I hope that he will end up in a better family, if he can be taken in by another family at all.

I spend a little more time with the child, go to dinner with him before I march through my biological father's room, who is lying in the closet and again take out all of my anger, guilt, fear, hatred and lack of self esteem on me. This happens to me every now and then. At least I'll let everything out and I'll feel better later. I get up from the floor again when I heard some noises from the closet. It sounded like someone was kicking the walls and mumbling something. Second Reich must have woken up. Actually, I could bring him something to eat and drink.

I get him a slice of bread and a glass of water before I stand in front of the closet. I open the doors slightly and see him awake and quite angry. "Reg dich nicht so auf. Ich bin da und sorge dafür, dass du nicht hier drinnen verhungern oder verdursten musst. Am Abend

lasse ich dich wieder da raus. (Don't get so upset. I'll be there and make sure that you don't have to starve or die of thirst in here. In the evening I'll let you out again.)", I try to calm him down. I sit down in front of him and take the cloth off his mouth. "arum hast du mich bewusstlos geschlagen? Wer bist du und was hast du vor? (Why did you knock me out? Who are you and what are you going to do?)", Second Reich asked with just one breath.

"Ich beantworte jetzt noch keine Fragen, doch ich werde dir später die Antworten geben auf deine Fragen. Ich möchte gerade nur, dass es dir gesundheitlich gesehen gut geht. (I'm not answering any questions now, but I will give you the answers to your questions later. I just want you to be fine in terms of health.)", I answer him. I take out a slice of bread and hold it in front of his mouth, which he opens and bites off. After he has finished eating the bread, I make sure that he drinks the water. Then he says to me: "Warum gibst du mir etwas zu essen und zu trinken, nach alldem was ich dir angetan habe. Du weißt bestimmt auch schon mein Geheimnis. (Why are you giving me something to eat and drink after everything I've done to you. You probably already know my secret.)"

"Ja, dein Geheimnis kenne ich. Doch nach all dem kann ich niemanden sterben lassen, ob es du bist oder irgendjemand der mir mehr bedeutet. Den Tod weg jemand anderem hat niemand verdient. (Yes, I know your secret. But after all that I can't let anyone die, whether it's you or someone who means more to me. Nobody deserves to die because of someone else.)", I answer him. He seems to be thinking about it. I tell him: "Ich werde dir das Tuch wieder vor den Mund legen und dich beim nächsten Mal befreien. (I will put the cloth in front of your mouth again and free you next time I'm here.)"

He nods and I put it over his mouth, making it loose enough for him. I then close the closet and take care of my appearance before I leave the room and slowly trot downstairs. Now I have to unpack my old skills of talking to people who let fear rule their lives. I go outside. I can already see the one who looks like me. He is held and gives me a small smile full of hope and confidence. It makes me more nervous, but on the other hand it also gives me the strength to do my best for his life. I take another deep breath before I stand

where I should be and take a quick look around. I've never spoken in front of so many people.

I began to speak without any help, while making hand movements without even realizing it: "Liebe Leute, dieses Landes wir haben uns heute hier versammelt, da der Countryhuman Reich der Dritte überlebt hat und sich wieder hier blicken lassen hat. Das letzte Mal als er hier war, war vor 5 Jahren. Genau an dieser Stelle war der Scheiterhaufen, an dem er verbrannt werden sollte. Heute werden wir jedoch nicht mehr ohne jegliche Beweise behaupten, dass er böse währe und sterben müsste. Heute haben wir Statistiken darüber, dass in den letzten Jahren unsere Bevölkerung sehr stark angewachsen ist.

Wie bräuchten sogar mehr Land, da die meisten ihre wunderbare Heimat nicht verlassen wollen. Ich möchte mich bedanken dafür, dass es uns so gut geht. Wir haben genügend zu Essen, durch die harte Arbeit unserer Farmer. Wir haben viele neue Maschinen und Erfindungen, durch unsere Erfinder. Wir haben großartige Künstler, die uns lehren das Leben nicht eintönig zu sehen. Besonders für Reich den Dritten ist auch die Welt als würde es nur aus Farben bestehen. Es geht drunter und drüber für ihn und er hat sich in diesem Land gut durchgeschlagen in den letzten 5 Jahren, auch wenn es schwierig war und wir haben ihn nicht einmal bemerkt.

Wir dachten er wäre 5 Jahre lang weg gewesen, daweil war er die ganze Zeit unter uns. Ein Teil von uns unserem Land. Da stelle ich mir die Frage: Wenn er uns sowieso nichts Schlechtes tut und es uns sogar sehr gut geht. Warum sollen wir ihn dann noch umbringen? Reich der Dritte hat uns nicht geschadet. Diese Flügel sind keine Flügel des Unglücks oder des Todes. Es sind einfach halb schwarze Flügel. Es gibt einige verschiedene Erklärungen, warum das so ist. Es könnte ein Gendefekt oder ähnliches sein, doch ein Fluch garantiert nicht. Es scheint sogar vererbbar zu sein. Denn ich habe ähnliche Flügel als Reich der Dritte.

(Dear people of this country we have gathered here today because the Countryhuman Reich the Third survived and came back here. That last time he was here was 5 years ago. This is exactly where the pyre was where he was to be burnt. Today, however, we will no longer claim without any evidence that he is evil and must die.

Today we have statistics that our population has grown very rapidly in recent years.

We even need more land, since most people do not want to leave their wonderful homeland. I want to say thank you that we are doing so well. We have enough to eat thanks to the hard work of our farmers. We have a lot of new machines and inventions by our inventors. We have great artists who teach us not to see life monotonously. Especially for Reich the Third, the world is as if it consisted only of colors. Things go haywire for him and he has done well in this country for the past 5 years, even if it was difficult and we didn't even notice him.

We thought he was gone for 5 years while he was with us all the time. Part of us, our country. So I ask myself the question: If he doesn't do anything bad to us anyway and we are even doing very well. Then why should we kill him? Reich the Third did not harm us. These wings are not wings of bad luck or death. He just has half black wings. There are a few different explanations as to why this is so. It could be a genetic defect or something like that, but a curse is not. It even seems to be inheritable. Because I have similar wings as Reich the Third.)" Then I take off some of my clothes and show them the wings, which are one third white.

Everyone is shocked by the sight. "Seht ihr! Ihr müsst keine Angst haben. Wir bringen euch kein Unglück. Und ich glaube alle Beteiligten sollten sich bei Reich dem Dritten entschuldigen. Wir haben einen Fehler gemacht, doch wir werden aus dem Fehler lernen, denn dafür sind Fehler da. Wer dafür ist, dass wir uns bei Reich dem Dritten entschuldigen zündet eine Kerze an. Wer keine hat, bekommt eine von uns. (You see! You don't have to be afraid. We won't bring you any bad luck. And I think everyone involved should apologize to Reich the Third.

We made a mistake, but we will learn from the mistake, because that's what mistakes are made for. If you want us to apologize to Reich the Third, you light a candle. If you don't have one, you get one from us.)", I tell them before I tell the guards to get candles. I stand still and watch how more and more people hold candles in their hands. I am impressed with how many there are. It's three quarters of the people with a candle. I look at the Countryhuman

who looks like me and looks at me with a big smile.

I'll go to him and make sure he's free. He immediately hugs me and wraps his wings around me while I do the same. "You did a great job Reich.", he whispers to me. I ask: "Really?" "Yeah, you were great! I'm really proud of you.", he says to me before he lets me out. He also asks: "Should I say a few more words to the people or not." "It's your decision!", I tell him. "I need something to eat and something to drink. I also have to show you who I am.", he replies.

I then go with him to my previous position and tell the people: "Reich der Dritte ist zwar gerade nicht bereit zum Reden. Ich werde aber damit ihr auch einen besseren Grund habt hier zu sein dafür sorgen, dass ihr alle etwas zu essen und trinken bekommt. (Reich the Third is not ready to talk right now. But so that you also have a better reason to be here, we will make sure that you all have something to eat and drink.)" People are happy about it and I tell the guards what to do before I wish the people a good evening. Then I'll go inside with the one who looks like me. I pull out the transformation potion and take a sip before handing it over to the one across from me. He also takes a sip before giving me the rest of the potion back.

After I put the potion in my jacket pocket he pulls me towards him and puts his lips on mine. What is he doing!? I push him away from me, wipe my mouth with my arm and just want to give him a slap in his face when I see who is standing in front of me. I freeze in position and stare at him with wide eyes. "My Reich, I will always stay with you. No matter what happens.", he says calmly and comes down to me. I have to dream! Is Soviet Union really standing in front of me right now? No, no, that can't be! Didn't he die in front of my eyes, or did he? He lifts my hand with the ring and shows me the two rings. Soviet wears his ring.

He is not dead. "Wh-why?", Is all I can say. Soviet says: "I didn't know myself that I would not die from it Reich. I wanted to tell you earlier about my regenerative powers, but I always forgot. I'm sorry that you had to suffer so much from it. It won't happen again! I promise you! " He gets down on his knees and hugs me. He hugs my stomach while I stroke him over his head and back, before I hug and kiss him.

Chapter 38

A few years have now passed. Today I will be 30 years old. I am married to Soviet and we live in a palace between the former borders of our countries. It is now only one big country that we both rule. There has been no war with other countries for 5 years because we taught them respect. We have the largest and strongest country of all time. Soviet's father retired to a town somewhere. My father couldn't live with the fact that I uncovered his secret and that everyone around him knew and therefore fled to the forest.

Soviet and I took Germany into our family, with my father's permission. Soviet kisses me on the cheek to wake me up. He probably hasn't noticed that I've been awake for a while. I wait until he wants to kiss me again before turning my head to him and kissing him on the lips. After he takes his lips from mine, he hugs me and whispers: "Good morning Reich." "Good morning to you too Soviet.", I whisper back before kissing him on the lips. He strokes my cheek with his hand during the kiss. After the kiss he asks me: "Do you know what a special day today is?" I don't have to think twice before I ask him: "My birthday?"

"Of course it's your birthday!", he says excitedly, "And how many years are you going to be?" "30 I think.", I answer him. Soviet exclaims with delight: "Correct!" Why is he so happy? It's just my 30th birthday. I ask him: "Why are you so happy?" "You will only turn 30 once and there is a wonderful year ahead that I will spend together with you.", replies my husband, before he kisses me again. "I also have a special present for you.", he adds after the kiss. I happily tell him: "I'm really looking forward to it!" "It's something you've wanted for a long time.", my husband tells me.

"Don't tell me too much, otherwise it won't be a surprise anymore.", I make it clear to him. He says: "Don't worry, I think I'm better at not telling you the present this time." "So if it turns out like last year, I'm afraid that I'll already know the present in a few hours.", I remember with a giggle. He kisses me and then promises: "This time

it will be different. I promise!" "We will see!", I laugh. I then snuggle up to him. Soviet puts his warm wings around me, I hug him and put my wings around him too. Every day with my husband is a great day.

Somehow I think the longer I'm with him, the more I love him, but I'm not exactly sure because I don't even know if I can love him more than I love him already. He slowly lets me out and kisses my forehead before telling me: "I'll wake up the kids and then we'll have breakfast." I nod and kiss his cheek. He smiles lovingly at me before he gets up and puts on a pair of pants and a sweater. He walks slowly out of the room. I slide to his side of the bed and snuggle up in the warm blanket. No matter where Soviet is, he always makes sure that it is pleasantly warm. After a short time I hear many quiet steps approaching.

The wood under their feet always tells me that the children come to me. The children crawl onto the bed. Some go under the covers, but everyone tries to come to me. I am hugged on all sides and everyone wishes me a 'good morning'. I kiss the forehead of one child after another. A few children have moved out over the years and started their own business. Soviet and I want the children to go their own way and decide for themselves what they want to do. We think it's better that way, as we've had bad experiences ourselves when parents control their children's lives too much. With us, they should do it the way they want.

Soviet and I support them, but they should decide for themselves which paths they want to go. We go to breakfast together. I'll have a pretzel soup. We now have a large buffet where everyone can take as much as they want. The leftovers from the buffet are given to the homeless in the neighboring city. The idea came from Kazakhstan. As he became a teenager, he gave a lot of thought to the homeless and kept giving Soviet and me new interesting ideas. Azerbaijan and Georgia keep coming to visit us and also give us some tips and ideas for different people or groups of people.

We really have led this great country to so many successes. Our country has become a huge role model for others. I'm really proud of what my family and I have achieved. I've also changed my mind about governing a country. I didn't want to rule a country for a long

time because I thought it would limit me a lot, but it's not like that. I am happy to solve problems with some Countryhumans, Statehumans and people from all over the world together. For me there is really almost nothing negative left.

I can't even tell the difference between about 10 years ago and now because I grew out of all these fears and worries. In my life there is only love, joy and happiness. Sadness, fear and anger seem to me as if there are no more. I live with the people around me with infinite joy. Soviet pulls me out of my mind by kissing me on my cheek. I know exactly what he wants. I get up and sit on his lap. I see that his plate is empty and put it aside. I put my soup in front of me and continue to eat while Soviet massages me lightly and kisses my neck over and over again.

It feels so relaxing that I almost didn't want to get up to take more of this delicious soup. I get up and get more before sitting back on his lap. I don't worry about the people around us anymore, they're used to it anyway. At some point he stops massaging me because his hands can no longer and when he lays his head on my shoulder, I hold out a spoon of soup for him. He opens his mouth and also eats some soup. I keep giving him some soup. When my plate is empty, we get up and take our plates and glasses to the kitchen to wash up.

We then go into the garden with the children and Soviet and I sit down under a weeping willow. I sit between his legs and watch the children while Soviet braid my hair. The children run around in their playground with other children from humans and Statehumans who live in the palace. It's always nice to watch them because they get along very well. Little Germany, however, distances himself again from the other children and climbs up a tree. He has a problem reaching out to others. He always walks away from others and feels like he doesn't belong here. Germany is still my little brother.

Everyone else has people who are like parents, but he believes his real father hates him. I have tried again and again to explain to Germany why Soviet and I are taking care of him, but he either doesn't understand or he doesn't listen to me. His father doesn't hate him, he just doesn't believe that he's a good father for him. Fortunately FRG, GDR and Russia are there and help him. Even now

they climb up to him and talk to him. The children have become so inseparable. Nobody goes anywhere alone without a small group to follow them. Even if they do something, they defend and protect each other, it's always so touching to see.

We'll stay outside for a while before going back to our part of the palace. The children can do what they want and can go anywhere around the palace. Soviet and I are changing because we want to go to the steam bath again after a long time. Once there, it was already very hot inside. It smells strongly of lemon to me. I'm taking off the bath towel that I put on after taking everything off earlier. My husband does it just like me. We put the bath towels under us and sit on them. Soviet pulls me to him and covers me with kisses.

After a short time, Soviet and I are full of sweat and water, from the water vapor. I'm already panting a lot from the heat, Soviet not that much yet. He strokes my body gently and kisses my body over and over again. I enjoy it and I never want it to end. I lie down so that Soviet's leg is my pillow while he kisses my neck, chest and stomach and runs his hands gently over my skin. He always knows what is good for me. I slowly begin to run my hand over his leg.

After a little more time, I get up with him again and we wrap our bath towels around us so that we don't get too cold on the way to the bathroom. Once there, Soviet runs some warm water into the tub so that we can bathe together to wash off the sweat. In the tub we're splashing water on each other's faces. After bathing, we dry each other off. Then we go for a walk with some children. We then go into town and go to an ice cream parlor. All of us order ice cream. I order three scoops of vanilla ice cream, while my husband orders four scoops of chocolate ice cream.

After our ice cream is in front of us, I steal half a spoonful of Soviet's chocolate ice cream and dip the spoon in my vanilla ice cream, because I really like the combination of vanilla ice cream and chocolate ice cream. Soviet jokes around because I stole some ice cream from him: "You stole my ice cream." I join in: "Which ice cream? I don't know anything about it." He and the kids giggle at it. "I saw it with my own eyes.", he chuckles, moving his face closer to mine. "All right! I stole some ice cream from you, but how can I pay you back?", I ask him. I know very well that he wants to kiss me.

"Maybe a kiss~", he replies. I knew it! "I would love to~", I tell him before I put my hands on his cheeks, put my wings around him and put my lips on his. I close my eyes and feel how he puts his arms around my back. After the kiss, I look at him in love and kiss him again before I pull my wings back and tell him: "Let's finish the ice cream, otherwise the atmosphere around us will be so hot that it will melt." He giggles from it and gives me a kiss before stealing some of my ice cream with his spoon. I giggle from it and continue to eat my ice cream. When we are all done we go back to the palace.

While walking back we get tears of joy in my eyes again, because I have to think very much about how happy I am with my family. Soviet carries Germany on its shoulders. I have Soviet's hand in my left hand and Ukraine in my right. I can't be happier. A little later we are back in the palace and sit under the weeping willow and wait for everyone to get their presents for me. The children give me wonderful homemade cards and homemade figures made of wood and other materials. They put so much work into it and they look too good.

At some point Soviet comes and sits down next to me and hugs me before he whispers: "You have to wait a little longer for my present to you, as she is not used to so many children." "So now I'm curious.", I say. He gets up and says: "I'll get her quickly." Is he giving me anything alive? What is she? Is she an animal? "Here she comes!", shouts Soviet. I hear something running through the grass and look in the direction of where the sound of small steps came from. A small brown and black puppy is running towards me. The little bundle of fur jumps at me and tries to lick my face. I hold her back before I get a wet face from the little puppy.

She has such a soft and has fluffy fur. She is so cute! I stroke her and the children come closer and stroke the little puppy. "Have you made friends yet?", laughs Soviet. "She is so incredibly cute.", I reply. He comes closer to me and sits down next to me on the grass. My husband asks me: "What should we call her?" "Doesn't she have a name yet?", I ask. He replies: "No, she hasn't yet. I wanted you to decide." I look at the little one and take the name that came into my head first. "How about the name Kira?", I ask him. "Kira... suits

her.", thinks Soviet, before he kisses my cheek.

♡ ☆ **To be continued** ☆ ♡

(in a new book)